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WEST END WATCH
something new in the watch world...
Yacoub Yousef Behbehani

Aoun to Hirawi: I'll die fighting

BEIRUT, Nov 27, (Agencies): Christian leader Gen. Michel Aoun today rejected an ultimatum by newly elected President Elias Hrawi to step down, and vowed to fight "even with kitchen knives, sticks and stones" to defend his headquarters at the presidential palace.

Military sources denied reports that Aoun and the Syrian army were massing troops on the mountain overlooking the shell-damaged palace in southern Beirut east and along Beirut's dividing Green Line.

"There is absolutely no move on the ground to suggest that a collision is imminent. The fronts as they have been since the 1982-83 ceasefire," a ranking officer said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Aoun rejected 48-hour ultimatum by Hrawi to step down or face a lightning thrust.

"Forty-eight hours are not enough for me to pack and leave. Couldn't he have made them 72 or 100 days?" Aoun said sarcastically. He spoke at a news conference in the bunker of the presidential palace.

National Front poised to stake its claim to form next government: Arun Nehru, Venkataraman and Dandavate touted as possible premier

NEW DELHI: Results in the Indian General Elections after 380 seats declared out of 525 contested.

Congress	161	IUML (S)	2
Janata Dal	79	Kerala Congress (M)	1
Bharatiya Janata Party	70	Telugu Desam	2
CPI (M)	24	Forward Block	3
CPI	9	National Congress	2
AIADMK	11	RSP	2
Cong (S)	1	Independents and others	9
Jharkhand Mukti Morcha	3	Total seats declared	380
IUML	1		



An Avianca Airlines Boeing 727, similar to the one which exploded in Colombia. (Reuters wirephoto)

107 perish in mid-air blast

Bogota Boeing tragedy

BOGOTA, Nov 27, (Reuters): A Colombian Boeing 727 jetliner exploded in mid-air today minutes after it took off from Bogota on a domestic flight to Cali, killing all 107 people on board, an airline official said.

Witnesses told radio stations they saw the plane explode in the air then crash in flames, spilling the bodies of passengers and twisted pieces of charred wreckage across two hillsides near Soacha, about 10 miles (16 km) southwest of Bogota.

The plane belonged to Avianca Airlines, the Colombian national airline and the oldest air carrier in Latin America.

A spokeswoman for the airline, Maria Clara Quintero, said the plane carried 101 passengers and six crew members and that "unfortunately, there were no survivors."

Parliament dissolved after Cong (I) setback

Rajiv leading by 48,000 votes: Counting postponed in V.P. Singh's constituency

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov 27: The decks were cleared tonight for the installation of a new government in Delhi with the dissolution of India's Lok Sabha.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi met with senior leaders of the ruling Congress (I) during the day and later in the evening presided over a meeting of his cabinet. The meeting decided to advise the President to dissolve the Lok Sabha.

President Ramaswamy Venkataraman ordered the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

At the time of going to press, results for 380 out of the 525 seats contested, were available. The Congress had won 161, the Janata Dal 79, the BJP 67, the CPM 24, the CPI 9, AIADMK 11 and others 26.

It is considered very unlikely that the BJP or the CPM would join the government. Both the BJP and the leftist parties have already indicated that they would support a National Front government from the outside.

There appeared to be almost no possibility of the Congress being able to form the government, since the number of seats secured by it and its allies would fall far short of the required majority.

There also seemed to be no immediate chance of a large-scale defection from the Janata Dal at this stage, though a lot is being speculated in political circles. It would require one-third of the elected members to shift sides in one block to escape the provisions of India's anti-defection laws.

Parliament on Rajiv's advice.

As results of last week's general elections continued to come in, it was amply clear that neither the Congress nor its main rival, the opposition National Front, would emerge with a clear majority.

Till late tonight, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had not tendered resignation of his government though rumours to this effect were afloat all evening. Since the Lok Sabha has already been dissolved, his resignation will follow in due course.

All indications are that the National Front would at the earliest available opportunity stake its claim to form the next government with support from the Bharatiya Janata Party and the leftist parties.



Advani (left) rejoices in victory, while Rajiv is at a loss. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rajiv stays party leader.

NEW DELHI, Nov 27, (Agencies): Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Lal Krishna Advani held initial talks with the Janata Dal, core of the National Front, and appeared ready to extract a high price for his support to form a coalition government.

"BJP's joining the government is an open question," he told Reuters, suggesting his bargaining position was hardening with his unexpected success.

"The Janata Dal in the past two years has not inspired any trust in us. Now they are saying sorry," Advani said.

Another BJP leader, however, restated the party position that it would support a National Front government provided communists were excluded.

General Secretary Krishan Lal Sharma said the BJP might even join a National Front government if the terms were right.

"We will consider joining an opposition if there is an offer," he said.

"No complete picture has emerged and the talks will continue," he said.

The National Front said its leaders would meet near New Delhi on Wednesday to decide who would lead the party in Parliament and become prime minister.

BJP hardening position

Cong (I) bags Andhra: NTR routed

NEW DELHI, Nov 27, (Kuma): The Congress (I) today returned to power in southern states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka after remaining in political wilderness for nearly six years.

The party has already got absolute majority in 224-seat Karnataka assembly and was four short of two-thirds majority in the state. It has bagged 146 seats so far and Janata Dal is lagging far behind with 22 seats.

In Andhra Pradesh the party also secured majority in the 294-member assembly. The party bagged 156 seats and ruling Telugu Desam Party, led by N.T. Rama Rao, only 58 seats. Only 245 results were declared so far.

N.T. Rama Rao resigned following his party's debacle in the state assembly election. The election (Continued on Page 2)

Kohl suggests three steps Reunification plan

BONN, Nov 27, (Reuters): Chancellor Helmut Kohl will present a plan to West Germany's Parliament tomorrow for bringing about German unity in three steps, ruling coalition sources said today.

"Kohl will speak about these steps to reunification tomorrow (Tuesday) in Parliament," one source in Kohl's Christian Democrat (CDU) Party told Reuters.



Helmut Kohl

Comoro President killed in raid

Former army commander arrested

MAYOTTE, Comoro Islands, Nov 27, (Agencies): Rebels led by a former army commander attacked the presidential palace in the Comoro Republic and killed the long-time ruler of the Indian Ocean archipelago, state-run Radio Comoro reported today.

Officials at the Comoro embassy in Paris said the attack last night was led by Ahmed Mohamed, a former army officer who recently resigned in a dispute with President Ahmed Abdallah Abderrahmane.

Mohamed was arrested and taken into custody, the embassy official said on condition of anonymity. It was not known whether there were further arrests or when Mohamed would be charged in court.

The official said Mohamed had led an unspecified number of men in the assassination. It was not clear whether Mohamed had planned to seize power.

Hezbollah network in West Africa prepares for attacks against West

LOS ANGELES, Nov 27, (AP): The Shiite Muslim extremist group Hezbollah has established a network of operatives in West Africa that may be preparing attacks against Western targets, a US newspaper reported today.

Hezbollah agents are active in the Ivory Coast, Senegal, Gabon, Zaire and possibly other countries, the Los Angeles Times reported, citing unidentified US and French officials.

As Western intelligence agencies have focused on Iran and Lebanon, Hezbollah may have moved to create an alternative arms network in West Africa as early as 1986, the newspaper said.

French authorities believe a group linked to Hezbollah took part in bombing a French airliner that exploded over Niger in September, killing 171 people.

Islamic Jihad and other extremist groups, believed linked to Hezbollah, have claimed to have taken Western hostages in Lebanon and committed terrorist acts. Hezbollah officials deny any responsibility but have acknowledged contacts with the groups.

On Saturday, Spanish police announced the arrests of eight people involved in an attempt to smuggle at least 240 pounds (109 kilograms) of explosives into Spain in canned goods. Three of the eight were suspected Hezbollah members, police said.

TEMPERATURE will remain above normal with moderate south-easterly wind.
State of sea: Moderate to rough
High water: 10.00 am, 1.00 pm
Low water: 6.00 am, 6.00 pm
Sunset: 6.22 am
Sunrise: 4.49 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuala Lumpur: 32°C
Singapore: 31°C
Penang: 30°C
Malacca: 29°C
Ipoh: 28°C
Kuala Lumpur: 32°C
Singapore: 31°C
Penang: 30°C
Malacca: 29°C
Ipoh: 28°C
Kuala Lumpur: 32°C
Singapore: 31°C
Penang: 30°C
Malacca: 29°C
Ipoh: 28°C

BJP riding high on a wave of Hindu revivalism

NEW DELHI, Nov 27, (UPI): The only party celebrated the results of India's indecisive parliamentary elections today was the Bharatiya Janata Party, which proved itself a potent new political force riding on a wave of Hindu revivalism.

The BJP, by late today had surged from a pre-election position of being a minor two-seat player in the lower house or the Lok Sabha, India's Parliament, to securing 67 places and was expected

to finish with at least 80 members.

The results gave it the crucial position of having the block of votes that either the Congress (I) Party or the main opposition force, the National Front, must secure if either group is to reach the majority required to form a coalition government.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, one of the Hindu party's senior-most officials, told United Press International there was no possibility of his party allying itself with the Congress (I) Party.

"We have fought the election against them. Now, how could we join hands with them?" asked Vajpayee, who in 1977-79 served as foreign minister during India's only previous period of opposition rule. "The people have expressed their verdict against the Congress."

Opinion polls and political analysts before the election had projected an increase in seats for the Hindu party, but few anticipated the magnitude of its victories, which appeared rooted in both the

party's base messages and its fortune in capitalising on a dispute over a contested religious site.

"The BJP has been particularly determined to strike out on a new path which distinguishes it from all other parties," a Western diplomat said. "They are not afraid to take a risk, and therefore much better organized than any other party."

The party had earlier drawn its support largely from middle- and lower-middle class income Hindus in the cities. But, its electoral surge indicated far

greater backing across the northern Hindi-speaking heartland, where towns for the past month have been festooned with the party's lurid lime-green and orange banners.

Part of the party's appeal lies in its refusal to waver from clear principles compared with the often mercenary conduct of other parties, which often without any remorse ally with bitter political enemies for short-term expedient goals.

Its core messages are deeply patriotic, calling for stern action against any group threatening the unity of India.

The party says its main aim is true equality for all Indians, a goal its opponents charge means that India must abandon secularism and declare itself a Hindu nation in which minorities, notably Muslims, bow to the will of the 700 million-strong majority.

Cong (I) coaxes CPI (M)

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): A giant petrochemical project could hold a clue to whether India's main Communist Party will throw its weight behind Congress (I) as it heads towards an election defeat.

Premier Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party appeared on Monday to be falling far short of a parliamentary majority and a coalition government seemed inevitable.

Congress would almost certainly have to look for backing to the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), apparently set to increase its presence in Parliament.

Two weeks before the elections were called, Rajiv travelled to the eastern, Marxist-ruled state of West Bengal to lay the foundation stone for a 28.5 billion rupee (\$2.7 billion) petrochemical project at Haldia, on the Ganges estuary.

It was no ordinary pre-election largesse. The 300,000-tonne project had been stalled since the communists won power in West Bengal in 1977, the central government with-holding its approval.

The long delay became the opposition symbol how a central government could undermine opposition-ruled states.

Political analysts in Calcutta, the West Bengal capital, said Haldia was a Congress peace offering and that the CPI-M was receptive.

Publicly, the CPI-M wants nothing to do with Congress but party sources say its ageing 10-man politburo is divided.

Some politburo members say they are against supporting the opposition National Front because it is also allied with the rightwing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The electoral arithmetic shows the National Front will have no chance of forming a government without backing from both the BJP, the election's biggest winner, and the CPI-M.

The two parties at the extremes of Indian politics detest each other and vow never to share power in any coalition government. It is that hatred which leads many to look for a Congress-CPI-M coalition.

"It's not unlikely that the Marxists will support the Congress," BJP leader Lal Krishna Advani said recently.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ski-race postponed: Near-blizzard conditions blew into the Dakotas today from a storm that dumped up to 4 feet (122 centimetres) of snow from the Sierras to the Rockies. So much snow fell in Utah that a world cup Ski Race was postponed.

The snow delighted early-season recreational skiers but sent cars skidding off roads and into each other, prompted some avalanche warnings and caused power outages.

Icy roads were blamed for cars crashes that killed three people in Montana yesterday. Some schools were closed in Minnesota today. (AP)

KAL crash probe: South Korean officials tentatively ruled today that engine failure caused Saturday's crash of a Korean Air Lines jet. The Fokker F28 carrying 54 people to an east coast resort town crashed just after take-off from Seoul's Kimpo airport, injuring 21, six of them seriously.

Transportation Ministry officials said investigators have determined the left engine malfunctioned just after take-off. (Reuters)

18 die in truck-minibus crash: Eighteen people who were bringing relief goods to typhoon-stricken areas in southern Thailand died when the minibus collided with a truck, police said today. The truck was trying to pass another vehicle on the highway in Surat Thani province, 530 kilometres (330 miles) south of Bangkok, yesterday when it struck the minibus head-on, said Sub. Lt. Jiradach Chomputir.

He said 18 of the 25 minibus passengers died instantly, and the rest were injured. The truck driver, believed to have been injured, fled the scene, he said. (AP)

Counterfeit bills traced: Counterfeit bills passed by a man at a New York supermarket were traced to a \$3 million cache of bogus money distributed in West Germany and Israel, police said today. Nahman Nahman, of Tel Aviv, Israel, was arrested at a Waldbaum's supermarket in Baldwin after he allegedly passed a \$100 counterfeit bill there yesterday said Charles Koller, a Nassau County police department spokesman.

Investigation of incident revealed that Nahman, who is temporarily living in the Baldwin, passed a bogus \$100 bill at the same store Nov 17, Koller said. (UPI)

Shuttle landing put off: Blustery winds whipping across the space shuttle's California desert landing site forced officials to keep Discovery astronauts in space another day.

Plans to end the secret military mission with a rare night landing yesterday at Edwards Air Force base were scrapped because of the persistent winds, which gusted to nearly 30 miles (48 kilometres) per hour.

The five astronauts, who reportedly deployed a spy satellite during their classified mission, were scheduled to return to Earth today at 2:52 pm California time (23:52 GMT). (AP)

Space module develops problems: A Soviet module carrying food and life-sustaining equipment to cosmonauts in the orbiting space station Mir has developed problems with one of its solar batteries after blastoff from Earth, Tass news agency said.

The battery trouble on the Kvant-2 module was the latest of a series of technical difficulties which have plagued cosmonauts Alexander Viktorov and Alexander Serebrov since they became the fifth crew to man Mir.

Bingo Day 2

42 71 79 11

BJP registers huge gains

NEW DELHI, Nov 27, (Agencies): The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) registered huge gains in the national elections for parliament that ended on Sunday. It won more than 67 seats, compared with the two it held following the 1984 elections.

Analysts have linked the BJP's rise to a revival of Hindu fundamentalism epitomised by plans to build a new Hindu temple

in Ayodhya, a northern Indian town. A 16th century mosque occupies the site, which Hindus say is the birthplace of one of their gods, Ram.

The temple plans, which were supported by the BJP, sparked riots this fall between Hindus and Muslims in which at least 300 people were killed.

BJP leader, Lal Krishna Advani said he opposed violence,

(Continued from Page 1)

floods in V.P. Singh's Fatehpur constituency.

Singh, who was leading by 5,000 votes, is considered by voters in Fatehpur as a "potential prime minister." His Congress (I) rival is H.K. Shastri, union minister of state for agriculture. Counting of votes in Fatehpur resumes Tuesday morning.

Singh, who returned to New Delhi last night, is expected to attend the Janata Dal political affairs committee meeting, due to be held today. Along with Arun Nehru, he is expected to meet his party's political affairs committee to chalk out a plan of options for forming a government. If Singh does not emerge as a consensus candidate, Chandrasekhar has indicated his willingness to take up the post.

Meanwhile, the Congress reviewed the latest political situation in the country today as Rajiv said to be in a reflective mood, spent the day conferring with party and cabinet colleagues. The working committee for the party will meet here on Wednesday.

Congress (I) spokesman Anand Sharma offered no explanations for his party's humiliating reverses in North India, saying the party leadership would engage in some introspection over the next few days.

While the party has made a near total sweep of the southern states, it has suffered a virtual rout in the north.

In Orissa, the Congress managed to win only two out of the 19 seats declared so far. The Janata Dal got five and the two left parties one each. In 1984, the Congress had won 20 out of 21 seats in the state.

In Gujarat, the Congress could get only two out of 26, against the 24 it had won in 1984. The party could not get a single seat in Rajasthan where it had won all 25 in the last elections.

In Kerala, the Congress retained 17 seats out of the 20, providing a shock to the ruling LDF government there. The leaders of the UDF promptly raised a demand for the resignation of the Nayanar ministry, which he rejected.

Thampan Thomas of the Janata Dal and Suresh Kurup of the CPM were the prominent opposition candidates who lost in Kerala from Mavelikkara and Kottayam respectively.

In Palghat, V.S. Vijayraghavan of the Congress was defeated by a A. Vijayraghavan of the LDF. In Kasargod, Ramanna Rai of CPM defeated I. Rama Ram of the Congress.

In Haryana, the Janata Dal won five and the Congress four. Counting of votes had not started in Rohtak where Chief Minister Devi Lal is contesting after complaints of malpractices.

The Janata Dal also took the Chandigarh seat.

The CPM-led left front had won 13 out of the 14 seats declared in West Bengal State Congress President A.B.A. Ghani Khan Chaudhary won from Malda while Minister of State for Commerce P.R. Dasgupta was a prominent loser for the Congress in Bengal.

In Bihar, the Congress managed only two so far while the Janata Dal had four. The BJP won four of the seven seats in Delhi while two went to the Congress and one to the Janata Dal. BJP President L. K. Advani and Information Minister H.K.L. Bhagat were amongst those elected from Delhi.

The BJP had won two seats in Himachal Pradesh and leading in a third while the Congress won the fourth seat there. Food and Civil Supplies Minister Sukh Ram was among the losers in Himachal.

In Punjab, Bimal Khalsa, wife of Indira Gandhi assassin Beant Singh, Simranjit Singh Mann, one of the accused in the Indira assassination conspiracy case, were among those in the lead.

The BJP won 26 out of the 40 seats in Madhya Pradesh while the Congress could manage only eight and the Janata Dal three.

In Uttar Pradesh, results of only 17 out of 85 seats were available. The Janata Dal had twelve, the CPI one and the Congress four.

The Congress managed to win 28 out of the 45 seats in Maharashtra, conceding five to the Janata Dal and eleven to the BJP. Four independents were also elected from Maharashtra.

Parliament dissolved



V.P. Singh: leading



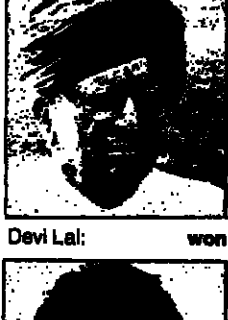
Arun Nehru: won



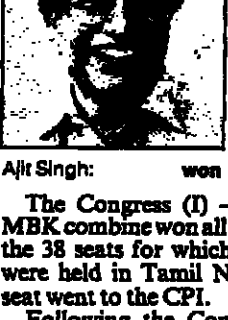
Maneka Gandhi: won



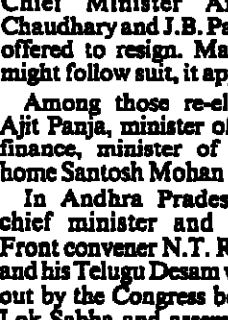
Buta Singh: Lost



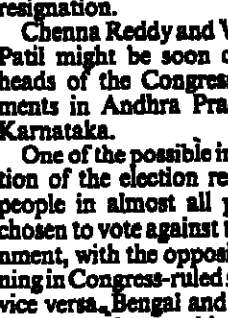
Devi Lal: won



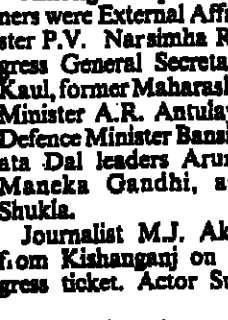
Aji Singh: won



Vijayanthimala: won



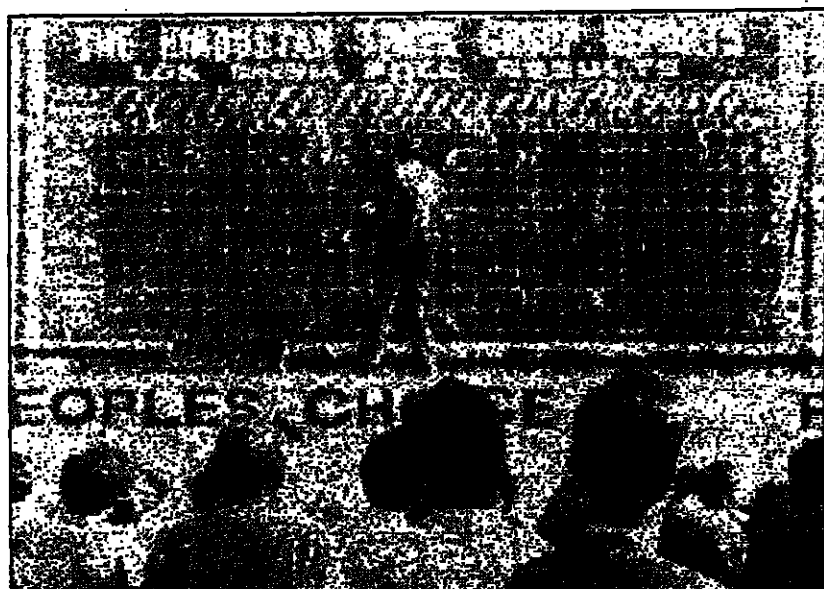
Jayalalitha: won



Narsimha Rao: won



Supporters of BJP celebrating victory. (Reuters wirephoto)



Delhi residents watching the returns outside Hindustan Times newspaper. (Reuters wirephoto)



A worker tears campaign posters off a wall in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

ted as party chief and denied a revolt was possible.

"Let there be no confusion on this score," he declared at a packed news conference. "The leader of the Congress Party is Rajiv Gandhi, now and in the future."

He said Rajiv met throughout the day with individual ministers and other senior party officials to assess the election results and called an evening cabinet session. He also summoned to New Delhi all Congress (I) Party state chief ministers.

Sharma said the party was "not in a tearing hurry" to hunt for coalition partners, saying, "The Congress would not like to go in for unprincipled alliances." About 300 million registered voters — the largest electorate in world history — cast ballots for 524 out of 545 seats. The government would be formed by the side that controlled a majority of the contested seats.

The elections were marred by fraud in more than 1,100 booths and violence that claimed almost 150 lives in the bloodiest national polls held since independence from Britain in 1947.

Rajiv was leading his own race for re-election to Parliament. But overall results showed the Congress Party lost its huge majority in Parliament.

It was ahead of any single opposition group, but far short of the mandate to form the next government alone. The party's poor showing could hurt efforts to form an alliance and trigger a revolt against Rajiv within the party.

"If Congress wants to win anything, the prime minister must go," independent analyst Bhabani Sen Gupta said. "With Rajiv Gandhi, very few things are possible. Without Rajiv Gandhi, many things are possible."

"I will see to it that the prime minister fails," said L. K. Advani, as dozens of supporters draped him with garlands of marigolds at his New Delhi residence.

After voter counting is finished and the winner declared, the President probably will ask the party with the most seats to try to muster enough partners for a parliamentary majority in the 543-seat Lok Sabha, or house of people.

Opposition leaders argued the President should turn to the party or group of parties with the most popular support, regardless of the number of seats they have.

"The very fact that the Congress Party lost its majority shows the people want a change. Congress is not a change," said Yashwant Singh, spokesman for the Janata Dal, the main group in the opposition National Front coalition.

Cong (I) bags Andhra: NTR routed

(Continued from Page 1)

to the state assemblies of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa were held simultaneously with the parliamentary elections.

Rama Rao, who is the chairman of the five-party National Front, met state Governor Kumudhben Joshi and submitted his resignation. However, he was asked by the governor to continue till new government is formed.

In Goa, the opposition Maharashtratravadi, Gomantrik Party (MGP) dealt a severe blow to the ruling Congress (I). The MGP has secured fourteen seats out of 29 results, while the Congress (I) is close with 13 seats. No trend was available from Sikkim.

Rama Rao also suffered most humiliating defeat from a Congress (I) legislator J. Chitranjan Dass in Kalwakum assembly constituency.

However, he won Himnagar assembly seat, defeating his Congress (I) rival G. Somasekhara by a margin of 12,000 votes.

In Karnataka assembly poll, the Congress (I) gave excellent performance. The party lost power to Janata Party in 1983 and failed to recapture it in the last six years.

But it bounced back with a huge big majority and its party leader Virendra Patil likely to form a new Congress (I) government in the state.

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Frigidaire



In the nostalgic world of cuddly toy collecting, where the teddy bear is king, enthusiasts frequently pay the price of a small car for a bear in photo was auctioned last Sept in London for £55,000 (\$86,000). (Reuter wire-photo)

Boom in the teddy market

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuter): In the nostalgic world of cuddly toy collecting where the teddy bear is king, enthusiasts frequently pay the price of a small car for the right bear to hug.

But last September a hushed Sotheby's auction house in London watched the hammer brought down on a bear for a record £55,000 (\$86,000), the price of a luxury coupe.

The buyer said he was astonished by how much his bidder paid, the seller was delighted and Bunny Campione, Sotheby's expert, was deluged with inquiries.

"I had the world and its aunt ringing up with a bear which was far more beautiful than the one sold," she said.

Most were disappointed. A mohair teddy bear with humped back and deep growl needs an impeccable pedigree and must be in fine condition to earn himself a hefty price tag.

In the past five years there has been a boom in the bear market with record prices leap-frogging each other as collectors bid at auction.

Emotional market
"It's an emotional market, people fall in love with them and have to have them," said Olivia Bristol at Christie's auction house. "It's full of fanatics," Campione observed.

Businessmen carry them in their suitcases, regiments keep them as mascots, pilots fly with them and lovers buy them as presents. Campione said one US client had 2,000 bears.

In Britain, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has two and the royal family's loyalty to bears is renowned but the price of a bear up until the last few years has usually been modest.

But why bears?
"It's because they look so sad," Campione said. "People want something to cuddle, something to love," according to Bristol.

Bristol tells of a crusty old British army colonel who amazed her by bringing in his treasured bear for sale. Asked how he could part with it after so long, he reluctantly admitted he wanted it to go to a good home to be cared for after he died.

Letters are often exchanged between buyer and seller, detailing the provenance of history of the toy. Christie's offered one recently which had flown with a World War One airman.

Hard cash
Behind all this sentimentality lies hard cash and a serious market.

"People ask about investment potential," Bristol said. "As a general rule if you buy the best you won't lose your money."

As the cult has grown dealers, brokers, restorers and even fakers have appeared on the scene. The Rolls-Royces of the bear world are usually made by Steiff of West Germany, founded in the late 19th century.

The bear took its name from US President Theodore, or Teddy, Roosevelt depicted in a cartoon refusing to shoot a bear cub on a hunting trip while ruling on a territorial dispute.

The drawing was entitled "drawing the line in Mississippi" and Roosevelt gave his name to a toy which would dominate nurseries for the next nine decades.

Countless bears from different manufacturers have been produced since the toy was popularised.

They have been made from mohair, wool and silk with boot buttons for eyes and sealing wax for snouts.

Some come dressed, others in their natural state while muzzles, spectacles and assorted accessories may be worn.

There seems to be an enthusiastic market for all of them. "But people are far more discerning than they were. They must be in extremely good condition," Campione said.

Store goofs

Santa Claus doesn't exist

TYSONS CORNER, Virginia, Nov 27, (AP): The Washington area's largest shopping mall says it goofed in allowing Santa Claus to give kids a book that offers a rude awakening: Santa doesn't exist.

"It's just so absurd, the irony of it," said Linda Smyth, of Vienna, Virginia, a nurse who took her 4-year-old son, Logan, to visit St Nick last week at Tysons Corner Centre.

"Here's Santa handing out the one thing saying he doesn't exist." After at least one mother complained, officials at Tysons Corner Centre pulled the book "A Pee Wee Christmas" from Santa's sack and replaced it with suckers and finger-printing kits.

Widow does not regret their friendship

Hitler was a fascinating man: Lady Mosley

LONDON, Nov 27, (AP): In a controversial interview broadcast yesterday, the widow of World War II fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley said she did not regret her friendship with Adolf Hitler, whom she called an "extraordinarily fascinating and clever" man.

Lady Diana Mosley said her husband, who died in 1980, was not anti-Semitic. Asked how she and her husband reacted when they realised Hitler's anti-Semitism ended in extermination, she said: "It was years before I could really believe that such things had happened."

She said she could not really believe 6 million people were killed in Hitler's extermination camps. "It's just not conceivable, it's too many. But whether it's six or whether it's one really makes no difference, morally. It's equally wrong. I think it was a dreadful thing, myself," she said in the British Broadcasting

Corp.'s radio programme "Desert Island Discs."

Lady Mosley, who lives outside Paris, was born into a family of British aristocrats, the sister of writers Jessica and Nancy Mitford. Hitler was a wedding guest when she and Mosley were married in the Berlin home of Nazi propagandist Joseph Goebbels. The Mosleys were imprisoned in Britain during World War II.

Lady Mosley was asked by interviewer Sue Lawley if Mosley, founder of the British Union of Fascists, had been anti-Semitic.

She said he was not and did not know a Jew from a gentile, but as Jews attacked him — both in the newspapers and physically at marches — he "picked up the challenge," and then a great many of his followers, who really were anti-Semitic, joined in.

As for Hitler, she said: "He was of course

extraordinarily fascinating and clever. Naturally, you don't get to be where he was just by being the kind of person people like to think he was."

Did she regret her friendship with him? Said Lady Mosley: "I can't regret that, it was so interesting and fascinating. All the well-known, famous people I've known in my life, I can't regret having known them, because for one thing it's something to measure by, the nonsense that gets written."

On the popular programme, the guest tells what books and records he or she would choose to take along if cast away on a desert island. Lady Mosley's selections from Wagner and Beethoven.

The interview had been postponed a number of times amid protests from Jewish leaders.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

FRONTIER, California: For the eighth time, Charles Manson disciple Patricia Krenwinkel has been denied parole for her conviction in the seven Tate-La Bianca killings.

Krenwinkel, 42, failed to convince a three-member board of prison terms panel that she no longer poses a threat to society and that she has changed from the kind of woman she was 20 years ago.

The board, after deliberating about a half-hour Wednesday, cited the brutality of the murders in deciding to deny parole.

Krenwinkel may seek parole in another year, the board ruled.

"She hasn't changed that much," said Los Angeles county deputy district attorney Stephen Kay. "I think she has her way running through her veins."

Krenwinkel is serving a life sentence in the California Institution for Women. (AP)

BRUNSWICK, Georgia: "Every community has somebody to talk about," says Jay Sulkowsky, who plans to oblige his neighbours.

In 1988, the Sulkowskys lit up their house and yard with 18,000 Christmas lights. On Friday, they plan to add 2,000 lights.

Sulkowsky started with 6,500 lights five years ago.

"I did it the first year just for the kids," he said. Now, the hundreds of eighties who come each year include plenty of adults.

A kettle will be placed along the side of the road for contributions to the salvation army. Last year, more than \$2,500 was dropped in the kettle. (AP)

Bright orange UFOs

Sightings reported

BUDAPEST, Nov 27, (Reuter): Only weeks after reports of little green spacemen in Hungary, meteorologists say they have sighted four large, bright orange-coloured unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

Meteorologist Gyula Bazzo said yesterday the objects were spherical and 50-100 metres (yards) across. He said one flew at a speed of 4,200 kph (2,625 mph).

Speaking to Reuters from meteorological station in Pape, western Hungary, Bazzo said he had colleagues elsewhere in Hungary had spotted strange lights close to the Great Bear Constellation late on Friday night.

Bazzo said he contacted the local military airbase which sent up an experienced pilot who located four objects at a height of around six km (four miles). All UFOs, which he said were bright orange in colour, disappeared suddenly shortly after 2 am on Saturday.

NEW YORK: Mickey Spillane says he has written his first Mike Hammer novel in 19 years because he needs the money to rebuild his hurricane-battered home.

During a television talk show interview, Spillane, who lives in South Carolina, traded jokes with host David Letterman as well as stories about South Carolina and hurricane Hugo.

The mystery writer said he pointed out "The Killing Man" in three weeks. He said he had not written a hammer story in so long because "I was doing OK and didn't really need the money." After the hurricane, "I needed the money very badly," he said.

"We used to do 'lifestyles of the rich and famous,' but now we're the poor and homeless," Spillane joked. (AP)

OPELOUSAS, Louisiana: A man wanted on burglary and attempted auto theft charges eluded police after officers spotted him, but later was caught when he went to the police station to recover the wallet he dropped while running away.

"We nailed him when he came inquiring about his wallet," said city deputy Marshal Paul Mouton. "It happened to be in the right place at the right time."

Mouton said he was in the police station near the dispatcher's desk Tuesday when Jack Pleasant, 37, of Opelousas, came in and asked about his wallet. Mouton said he did not know Pleasant on sight, but did know of the arrest warrants on him.

Pleasant lost his wallet when police spotted him on the street and gave chase, the wallet was picked up by officers, Mouton said. (AP)

'Paw print' petition presented to Thatcher

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuter): Hundreds of dogs — and their owners — marched to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's office yesterday to present a "paw print" petition against alleged South Korean cruelty in killing dogs and cats to be eaten.

About 1,000 animal lovers participated in the demonstration through central London to mark a four-day visit by South Korean President Roh Tae-woo to Britain this week.

They handed in the petition and a letter asking Thatcher to stop what they called the inhumane killing of animals in South Korea.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), which organised the protest, said it was not against Koreans eating cats and dogs, but the way in which they are killed.

"It's not the fact that they eat cats and dogs in Korea so much as the deliberate suffering that is inflicted on the animals before they end up on the dinner plate," said IFAW director Richard Moore.

Koreans believe pain and fear improved the taste, so the animals are beaten with sticks before being hanged or sometimes boiled alive, he added.

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Soviets recalling N-arms from Med

WASHINGTON, Nov 27. (Reuters) Soviet ships equipped with nuclear weapons or nuclear propulsion are being withdrawn from the Mediterranean on the eve of the superpower meeting there, the Washington Post reported today.

The Post, citing US defence officials, said the withdrawal involved most Soviet nuclear-equipped submarines and surface ships routinely deployed there.

The report said this may be a sign that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev plans to press for bilateral constraints on naval

weapons during his shipboard summit with President George Bush off Malta on Saturday and Sunday.

It said one possibility was a renewed Gorbachev declaration that the Mediterranean should be a nuclear-free zone.

The prospect of such an initiative tailored for broad public appeal was "giving many of us nightmares," a US defence official was quoted by the Post as having said last week.

The Bush administration has been opposed to any naval arms control, the paper said. White House officials were not

immediately available for comment.

President Bush goes into his weekend summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev with the goal of stressing US support for the changes sweeping Eastern Europe without seeming to exploit them at Soviet expense.

The two leaders meet on Saturday and Sunday on US and Soviet warships off Malta for the first time since Bush took office as president in January.

The summit was intended originally as a get-acquainted session but has broadened in importance with the opening of

the Berlin Wall and fast-moving reforms in Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

Though Bush insists he has no formal agenda, officials say he wants to hear Gorbachev's ideas on the future of Europe and to reiterate his own desire for a "Europe whole and free" without trying to redraw the continent's post-war map.

US officials said Bush would not extend Gorbachev any understanding or tolerance if the Kremlin chief said he might have to use force to curb demands for autonomy in Soviet republics

where nationalist unrest has surged this year.

Romania's exiled king today urged Bush and Gorbachev to discuss Romania during their upcoming meeting and possibly take action to improve conditions in the country.

In a statement to the press, King Michael called on Bush and Gorbachev "not to forget the unfortunate people of Romania during their upcoming meeting." The two leaders are scheduled to meet off the coast of Malta Dec 2-5.

See also Pages 6, 7

Texan builds collider in garage

DALLAS, Nov 27. (AP) While the US government struggles to begin construction on the superconducting super collider in Texas, a 16-year-old Texan has built two minicolliders in his garage, using rubber bands to help generate electricity.

"I've heard of kids putting something together from a kit—but this is something that requires a lot of motivation," said Wendell Chen, director of the centre for accelerator services and technology at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Sometimes called atom smashers, the accelerators propel atoms together at great speeds and the tiny pieces of matter scattered by their collisions are studied by scientists trying to unlock secrets about nature's building blocks.

The 55-mile-long (85-kilometre-long) super collider proposed for Waxahachie, Texas, by 1998 will use huge magnets to drive atoms around its oval path.

Electrostatic charges do the job on John Langridge's 4-foot (122-centimetre) model. Langridge, who plans a career as a physicist, obtained much of his parts from small scientific companies, but also has had to improvise.

"It was tough to find a belt to drive my electrostatic generator, so I just used rubber bands," he said.

He estimates he has spent \$1,000 to build his minicolliders. That's about \$5 billion less than it should cost to build the federal government's underground complex near Waco.

Langridge's parents were concerned when they discovered he would be using radioactive materials in some of his experiments in the garage. Some of the chemicals he works with, such as Cesium 137, emit radiation and must be handled with protective equipment.

"At first, my parents were scared that I might expose myself to radiation, but after they realized it was contained and that I knew how to handle it, they were OK," he said.

Every time he walks into the garage to work with the accelerator, he wears a radiation-level monitoring device to avoid prolonged exposure.

Transplant from live donor in US

CHICAGO, Nov 27. (AP) Surgeons made final preparations today for the United States' liver transplant from a living donor—a mother who was giving a third of her liver to her 21-month-old daughter.

If successful, the operation at the University of Chicago would provide a solution to a severe shortage of organs for children who need transplants, doctors said.

Liver transplants from living donors have been performed only three times, in Brazil, Australia and Japan. One child has died.

More than 700 babies a year in the United States need liver transplants, and as many as half died for lack of a donor. Teri Smith, 29, was to donate the left lobe of her liver to her daughter, Alyssa, in the operation at Wyler children's hospital at the University of Chicago, said hospital spokesman John Easton.

Dr Christopher Borelsch is leading the surgical team in the eight- to nine-hour operation that was scheduled to begin on Wednesday morning.

"In a way I kind of fear for her, but I'm confident everything will turn out OK," said Alyssa's father, John L. Smith, 27, of the San Antonio suburb of Shertz, Texas.

Alyssa suffers from an often-fatal liver disorder called biliary atresia.



Ortega speaks to an electoral campaign rally in Somotillo, northwest of Managua Nov 26. (Reuters wirephoto)



US citizen Jennifer Casolo as she was presented to the press in San Salvador on Nov 26 by police.

Salvador conflict turns into a war of words

Ortega welcomes break in ties

SAN SALVADOR, Nov 27. (Reuters) The Salvadoran conflict erupted in a war of words after the right-wing government suspended relations with Nicaragua, whose President Daniel Ortega said the intended insult was an honour.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani yesterday suspended all relations with Nicaragua after accusing its left-wing leaders of fanning the flames of the war in El Salvador.

Speaking on national television, Cristiani said the move had been provoked by Saturday's discovery of a shipment of sophisticated arms the government says was intended for Salvadoran leftist rebels.

In Nicaragua, Ortega said he was proud of the move and called on all governments to sever ties with San Salvador until the murderers of six Jesuit priests on Nov 16 are caught and punished.

Referendum on Swiss Army Support unexpected

GENEVA, Nov 27. (AP) Voters have rejected a draft law that would have abolished the Swiss army by the year 2000, but the proposal won more support than expected and the military said it would study complaints.

Defence Minister Kaspar Villiger said he would set up a panel to study criticisms voiced about the 625,000-strong army in the campaign leading up to yesterday's referendum.

"The Switzerland has no army" constitutional amendment was favoured by 35.6 per cent, or 1,052,218 of those who cast ballots. Opposed were 64.4 per cent, or 1,903,797.

Polls had predicted the proposal would win a maximum 30 per cent support.

Anti-army activists were jubilant. "It is a slap in the face for the establishment," said Andreas Gross, a spokesman for pacifists and others who had gained the 100,000 signatures needed to force the referendum.

The government had urged voters to reject the proposal, saying a credible defence policy was vital to the independence and neutrality of Switzerland.

Villiger said he did not regard the high number of votes in favour of the proposal as a defeat.

"The relaxation of tension which happily dominates the international scene was probably one factor" for the support, he told reporters.

However, he conceded that many people had used their vote to express dissatisfaction with the way the military functioned.

Eugen Luethy, chief of general staff, admitted the size of the anti-army vote had "exceeded his expectations" but said the result "provided a continuing solid basis for the armed forces."

The Social Democratic Party said it would press its three government coalition partners for a re-evaluation of defence policy, including a change in the law to allow conscientious objectors to perform civilian duties instead of military service.

Turnout for the referendum was 69 per cent, the highest since voters' ranks were swelled in 1971 when women were given the vote.

The heated debate before the referendum was reminiscent of the passions aroused by the question



Andreas Gross, the sponsor of the national referendum that seeks to abolish the Swiss Army. (Reuters wirephoto)

of universal suffrage.

For weeks before the voting, arguments for and against the army filled newspaper letters' pages, took centre stage in television talks shows and public meetings.

"Abolition of the army... abolition of the police... abolition of state. Anarchy and mob rule would take over," was one of the more extreme predictions made by Walter Krebs in the Zurich daily Tagesanzeiger.

Therese Dubach expressed the feelings of many who supported the initiative.

As a Nicaraguan, I feel proud that this murderous government has cut relations with Nicaragua," Ortega said.

"The least that the government of Nicaragua can demand of the international community is the breaking of relations with the murderous government until it punishes the murders of the priests and the murderers of the Salvadoran people," Ortega said.

Cristiani said the arms discovered on Saturday were flown into El Salvador on a light plane coming from Nicaragua with a cargo that included Soviet-made surface-to-air (Sam) missiles.

The plane crashed, killing three members of the crew. A fourth was said to have shot himself rather than be captured.

Neither Ortega nor Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto addressed allegations that the shipment originated in Nicaragua.

A second plane, also believed to have flown in arms, was set ablaze by its crew members after unloading its cargo, the military said.

Western military experts said the introduction of surface-to-air missiles could tip the balance of the war. El Salvador's US-backed armed forces have depended heavily on their command of the air during the decade-old war. That advantage could vanish if the rebels used shoulder-fired Sams.

In another development, an American woman identified as Jennifer Jean Casolo was arrested after police said they discovered a huge stash of arms buried under her house in San Salvador. Casolo, who works with US political and church officials visiting El Salvador, was presented at a news conference but did not speak to reporters.

Grassroots war on drugs

US cities fight back

NEW YORK, Nov 27. (AP) In a city in Washington state, klieg lights aimed at crack houses discourage night-time drug deals. Havens for drugs are torched in El Dorado, Arkansas. And helmeted residents of Philadelphia sabotage pushers with dusk-to-dawn street vigils.

America's cities are battlefields in the war on drugs, and the weapons include community hotlines, newspaper coupons and 1960s-style activism.

"It's a grassroots war," said Randy Arndt, spokesman for the League of Cities, a national organisation of municipal representatives. "Drugs is far and away the No. 1 issue for our cities, ahead of poverty, homelessness, affordable housing and trash disposal."

Images of war are beamed nightly by television into the nation's living rooms. Police commanders wear flak jackets to shield them from assault guns and casualty lists grow longer from gang wars nationwide.

President George Bush declared a war of drugs in September, saying the illegal narcotics trade and resulting violence would be fought "block by block, child by child."

Soldiers in the fight applauded Bush's rallying cry but criticised the limit of federal dollars, which puts the burden on cities to pay for the combat.

"You can declare war all you want. We ain't got the ammunition," said sheriff Doug Bair of Yakima county in Washington state.

"The front line is asked to supply the rear. It's like the Normandy invasion financing itself by holding a rummage sale," said Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard. "Is that any way to win a war?"

The League of Cities is pushing Dec 3-9 as "fight back against drugs week" to give the war on drugs some momentum.

The number of bystanders shot and murdered in drug-related shootings has tripled in the past three years in Boston, New York, Los Angeles and the nation's capital city of Washington, Sherman said. From 1986 to 1988, New York City had 128 bystander deaths, Los Angeles 105.

Police would like to see better national strategies, such as a timeline to switch on drug dealers and stiff fines to make the drug trade less profitable.

"What we are doing is fighting a war. We have not gotten into a mindset of winning the war," said Sevrin Sorensen of the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

In the meantime, the combat goes on. Yakima, a city of 50,000 in Washington state, has become a cocaine distribution point for the northwest, police say. Drugs are smuggled in from Mexico by agents who blend in with migrant farm workers.

To make the drug conspicuous, police train four 500-watt lights on suspected drug dens. Their purpose is similar to air raid lights discouraging attacking warplanes, and police said they have reduced traffic 95 per cent to the buildings since September.

But an American civil liberties union official in Seattle is unimpressed. "It sounds like a Hollywood approach to the war on drugs," Jerry Sheehan said.

The southern Arkansas city of El Dorado, population 26,000, condemned three suspected crack houses and set them on fire this spring. Crack is a cocaine derivative that is highly addictive and generally less expensive than cocaine.

"It was really interesting to see people in the neighbourhood standing on the porches, cheering and applauding when the houses were burning," said Mayor Larry Combs.

In the past 15 months, Philadelphia has sealed 600 abandoned houses with cinder blocks and strung to keep out dealers and their trade.

A network of community anti-drug groups has spread across Philadelphia in the past two years. Wearing white plastic helmets, residents hold all-night vigils to push dealers off street corners.

"We all have to get out there and roll our sleeves up. It's the worst crisis to hit America since Pearl Harbor," said Herman Wrice, a Drexel University professor and community leader.

The country's heartbeat, too, was mobilised. In Columbus, Ohio, police opened a hotline for residents to report crack activity in their neighbourhoods. It averages about 65 calls a week from private citizens.

Baseball is an ally in Kansas City, Missouri. Ewing Kaufman, the billionaire owner of the Kansas City Royals professional team pledged free college tuition to 500 students at one of the city's most neglected high schools if they stay off drugs.

"You give them hope, you give them opportunity, you show them that somebody cares about them, and they'll stand up to other people," Kaufman said of the \$10 million experiment.

The passions of war can even overwhelm anti-tax sentiments. This month, voters in the Kansas City area approved a quarter-per cent increase in the sales tax to raise \$98 million over the next seven years to fight the war.

I was told it had nothing to do with performance but (was for) political reasons."

Woerner's contention contradicts the Pentagon's denial in July when it announced he was being replaced.

Woerner, who retired from the army earlier this month, left his post as head of the command just days before the failed Oct 3 coup attempt to oust Panamanian Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

During the attempted overthrow, US troops blocked two roads in Panama, spoke with the rebel leaders and watched the firefights from their hillside vantage point. Several congressional leaders contended later that the United States should have stepped in to oust Noriega.

WASHINGTON, Nov 27. (AP) The former head of the US southern command says the Bush administration ousted him from his post in Panama for political reasons because he opposed US policies in that country.

"I believe the policy was flawed," Gen. Fred Woerner said in an interview in which he described the administration's goals as simplistic and short-sighted.

The specific language was, the President decided it was time for a change," Woerner said in describing how Defence Secretary Richard Cheney told him in July that he was being removed. "And then when I said I was entitled to more of an

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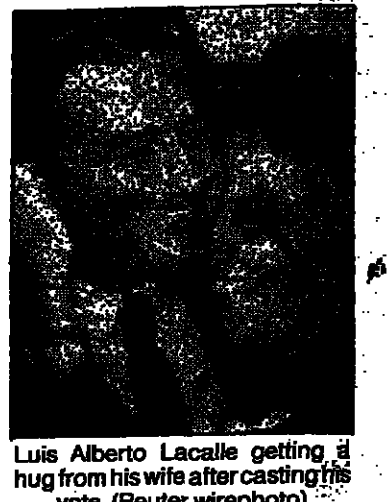
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explanation...



Luis Alberto Lacalle, Uruguayan National Party presidential candidate casts his vote during the presidential elections. (Reuters wirephoto)



Luis Alberto Lacalle getting a hug from his wife after casting his vote. (Reuters wirephoto)

Uruguay opposition wins polls

MONTEVIDEO, Nov 27. (Reuters) Opposition candidate Luis Alberto Lacalle of the Blanco (National) Party was elected president yesterday in Uruguay's first free elections since 1971.

"We are going to start work next Monday with all political and social forces," Lacalle, 48, said after governing Colorado Party candidate Jorge Batlle conceded defeat.

Lacalle, a rancher and lawyer, has promised to end economic stagnation and rising inflation by privatising state companies, cutting government spending, encouraging a free market economy and negotiating a cut in the \$1.8 billion foreign debt.

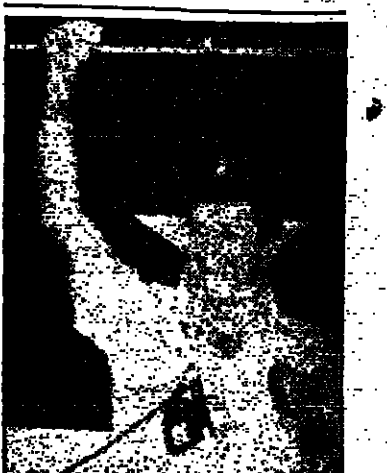
"The country is hungry for an efficient and productive government," he told foreign journalists.

The Colorado defeat was only the third for President Julio Maria Sanguinetti's party this century.

More than 80 per cent of Uruguay's 2.5 million registered voters turned out. Sanguinetti took over from a 12-year military dictatorship in 1985 after his Colorado Party won elections from which many government opponents were barred.

Political analysts said the defeat of the Colorados resulted from Sanguinetti's failure to restore living standards which had declined under the military dictatorship.

Economic growth was at a standstill in the past year while inflation accelerated to an annual rate of 90 per cent.



Rafael Leonrado Callejas gives a victory salute after his victory in the Honduran presidential election.

Opposition claims win in Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA, Nov 27. (Reuters) Rafael Callejas, a US-trained agronomist who favours an open market economy, claimed victory today in the closely-fought Honduran presidential election.

"The nation demands a government that responds to the need for change and for social justice," he told cheering supporters at National Party headquarters.

Based on unofficial preliminary results, Callejas was ahead with 48.7 per cent of the vote to 46.3 per cent for his opponent, Carlos Flores of the ruling Liberal Party with 34 per cent of the vote counted.

"In this violent Central America in which the sons of neighbouring countries are losing their lives, the Honduran people has said 'yes' to peace and 'no' to bloodshed," he said.

CIA records declassified and ready for release to public

Documents detail bickering among US State Department, FBI, armed services

WASHINGTON, Nov 27. (AP) The US State Department, FBI and armed services hampered the Central Intelligence Agency in its infancy by bickering about authority over covert activities and other operations, according to a long-secret CIA history of the spy agency's early years.

The 1,000-page narrative, written in 1953 by historian Arthur B. Darling, is the first CIA document to be declassified and transferred to the national archives for release to the public under the spy agency's historical review programme.

A copy of it was delivered to President George Bush on Wednesday by William Webster, director of the CIA, and Don W. Wilson, archivist of the United States.

Webster said other CIA records will be declassified and transferred to the archives.

The declassified version of Darling's history is accompanied by a note from the CIA's history staff cautioning readers that the former Yale history professor, who was the agency's first historian, had "a definite and sometimes controversial point of view."

"Darling blames the State Department, the FBI, and what he terms the military establishment—especially the heads of the military intelligence services—for much of the hardship which the early CIA (and its predecessor, the Central Intelligence Group) endured," the note says.

The history staff also said the late Allen Dulles,

when he became director of Central Intelligence in 1953, "reportedly... did not concur with Darling's conclusions and... restricted access to the history."

Darling was the agency's historian from 1952 to 1954. He died in 1971.

He wrote that sniping by the military departments began as soon as the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner of the CIA, was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during World War II.

Brig. Gen. John Magruder, deputy director of the OSS, told Darling that career military officers "lowered their horns" against the expert economists, geographers, historians and scientists recruited for the new spying network.

Darling conceded in his history that the military might have been justified in withholding information because the OSS "deserved part of its reputation for being a sieve."

In any event, Darling wrote, "they are reluctant to this moment in 1953 to give a central civilian agency intelligence which exposes their capabilities in war."

"The result has been interference with the flow of raw materials essential to the realistic estimates which should go to the makers of diplomatic policy and military strategy," he said.

"The army, navy and the Department of State were always glad to use the research and analysis branch of the Office of Strategic Services as a servant," he wrote.

Cojuangco slipped in

Probe into passport issue

MANILA, Nov 27, (AP): President Corason Aquino said today that Philippine diplomats in the United States issued her archival cousin a passport without her knowledge, enabling him to slip into the country three years after he was banished.

Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, 54, one of the closest associates of the late president Ferdinand Marcos, slipped into the Philippines last Friday. He had been banished in the 1986 uprising that propelled his first cousin to the presidency.

Cojuangco told reporters yesterday he was issued a passport by the Philippine consulate in Los Angeles. Mrs Aquino had cancelled her cousin's passport and those of the Marcos family in 1986 after they went into exile in the United States.

Mrs Aquino told reporters she met with Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and the consul general from Los Angeles, Leonides Caday, to discuss how Cojuangco obtained the passport.

"Unfortunately, Secretary Manglapus was never informed that a passport was indeed issued to Danding Cojuangco," she said. "The authority was issued while Secretary Manglapus was out of the country."

Aquino said Manglapus accepted responsibility for the oversight but that she had ordered a thorough investigation of the incident.

Cojuangco lawyer Estelito Mendoza showed reporters a copy of a letter from the Department of Foreign Affairs dated Oct 19 saying Cojuangco and his family were free to apply for passports in Los Angeles.

Manglapus said the Los Angeles consulate issued the passport on Oct 26 after being informed by Manila that there was no formal ban against Cojuangco's return.

Cojuangco refused to say how he entered the country. Officials said his name did not appear on the manifest of flights arriving in Manila or the other international airport in Cebu.

Pro-Marcos politicians have offered Cojuangco leadership of the opposition to Aquino. Cojuangco claims he wants to avoid politics so as to clear himself of allegations that he helped Marcos embezzle billions of dollars during his 20-year administration.

During the Marcos administration, Cojuangco was variously chairman of the San Miguel Corp., the country's largest food and beverage company; the United Coconut Planters Bank; and head of the state monopoly for exporting coconuts.

He was also governor of Tarlac province, stronghold of the late Sen. Benigno Aquino, Mrs Aquino's husband.

The Aquino administration seized Cojuangco's assets and named him as a defendant in 29 civil suits. Mateo Caparas, chairman of the presidential commission on good government, said he would file criminal charges against Cojuangco for allegedly fronting for Marcos in the purchase of shares in two publishing companies.

The government today filed criminal charges against Cojuangco with the anti-graft court, alleging he fronted for Marcos in the purchase of shares in two publishing companies.

David Castro, an official of the presidential commission on good government, said the government had delayed filing criminal charges for fear Cojuangco might have insisted on his right to return and defend himself.

Soldiers today defused a land mine found in a box of plants at the Philippine army compound, military officials said.



Scorpion heals

Lee Tee Eng eats a deep-fried scorpion at the first herbal restaurant in Singapore. The crunchy and chewy scorpion has a slightly salty aftertaste and is eaten with the poison intact. Chinese herbalists claim scorpions are good for spasms, boils and nervous convulsions. (Reuters wirephoto)

Planes collide in mid-air

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines Nov 27, (Reuters): Two Philippine Air Force bombers collided in mid-air over the southern city of Zamboanga and plunged into a rice field today, killing four crew members, the military said.

The Philippine Southern Command said the World War Two-type single-engine planes, used against Communist and Muslim rebels, smashed into each other as they were coming in to land at Zamboanga's Edwin Andrews Air Force base.

The pilot and gunner of both planes died in the crash. An Air Force spokesman said an investigation into the collision between the two T-28 Trojan trainer aircraft, which had been converted into bombers equipped with 12-pound explosives, was underway, but that it appeared to have been an accident.

The military said the planes took off from the southern city of Cotabato on Mindanao island this morning for maintenance work in Zamboanga. A third plane landed without problem.

Locally called "Tora-tora," the propeller-driven planes are frequently used in bombing operations against suspected mountain hideouts of Communist guerrillas.

They were also used extensively against Muslim rebels at the height of the separatist war in the Mindanao region in the 1970s in which more than 50,000 people were killed.

Im trial begins

Supporters hurl confetti

SEOUL, Nov 27, (AP): Relatives and friends hurled confetti and flowers today as radical student Im Su-kyong entered a courthouse for her trial on charges of visiting communist North Korea.

The trial was briefly adjourned and about 10 people were expelled from the Seoul district criminal court in southern Seoul when dozens of relatives and friends shouted slogans demanding Im's immediate release and began singing anti-American songs.

Confetti and several flowers were thrown at Im when she and a Roman Catholic priest entered the courtroom. About 3,000 riot troopers encircled the courthouse to guard against protests.

The trial began Nov 13. At today's second session, Im refused to answer prosecution charges that she had visited the North on orders from North Korean leaders. She said her visit was made with the help of radical student leaders in efforts to accelerate reunification of the divided Korean peninsula.

Korea was divided in 1945 at the end of World War II. Each side bans its citizens from visiting the other side or crossing the heavily fortified border without approval.

Im, a 20-year-old student, and the Rev. Moon Gyu-Hyun, a US-educated Catholic priest, are charged with violation of South Korea's national security law for making illegal and unauthorized trips to North Korea. If convicted, they could be sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

Im travelled to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang to attend a July 1-8 world youth festival. She returned to South Korea through the truce village of Panmunjom on Aug 15, and Moon was sent to Pyongyang by South Korean dissident Catholic priests to escort her home.

A revolutionary opera brought negotiations between North and South Korea to a discordant halt today. The two sides parted without setting a date for more talks on bringing together families split by the Korean partition.



Handcuffed Im is being led into a Seoul court to stand trial. (Reuters wirephoto)

Japanese kick up a row in US

Book incites nationalism

WASHINGTON, Nov 27, (UPI): It had elements of intrigue more common to a political thriller: hints of shadowy involvement by the CIA and the Pentagon, hush-hush dealings with Congress and worrisome diplomatic undertones.

But this had nothing to do with CIA plots against Panama's Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, covert plans to attack the Colombian cocaine cartels or secret White House strategy for the superpower summit.

Rather it concerned a provocative new book that has fanned flames of nationalism and stimulated transatlantic thinking about relations between two economic colossi: the United States and Japan.

Authors Shintaro Ishihara, an outspoken member of the Japanese Parliament, and Akio Morita, the founder of Sony Corp., attracted little attention early this year when they published a series of essays on US-Japanese relations.

But that was before bootleg translations of their book, "The Japan That Can Say 'No,'" began circulating in the United States. What began as anything but a blockbuster became something of a bombshell, sparking expressions of angst and charges of America-bashing from US business executives and politicians.

The authors' thesis is two-fold: that America has lost its competitive zeal to short-sightedness and neglect and that Japan should forcefully assert its economic muscle by standing up to the United States.

Underlying those themes are some controversial arguments by Ishihara:

- That American attitudes toward Japan result from racial prejudice.
- That the United States and the Soviet Union might someday

"gang up against a non-white Japan."

● And that Japan should be prepared to market its technology, even semiconductors crucial to the American military, to the highest bidder and not feel obligated to serve as exclusive provider to the US defence industry.

The economic trump card Ishihara urges Japan to play as leverage on the United States has some Japanese worried his book could inflame trade tensions and hasten a backlash against Japanese investment in this country.

The intrigue, however, lay not only in what Ishihara has written, but how widespread an audience he has reached — in spite of his own efforts.

The book was published Jan 31 and sold 140,000 copies by the end of October. But it was printed only in Japanese. As word of its blunt message spread, so too did the demand to hear it in plain English.

No official English version was published. Unofficial versions began showing up in the offices of major corporations that do business with or compete against the Japanese.

Not surprisingly, the US government, sensitive to political winds in Japan, apparently had sufficient interest to order up a secret translation of its own.

Though few bureaucratic fingerprints could be found to trace the source, the defence advanced research projects agency, which has been funding high-tech programmes designed to meet the Japanese challenge in high technology, and even the CIA may have been involved.

When that version, prepared only for closely held internal use, was on the verge of public release on Capitol Hill, the government inexplicably recalled all the copies to keep its interest in the book under wraps.

Kiwi 'bikies' cause trouble

PERTH, Australia, Nov 27, (Reuters): When the Mongrel Mob "bikie" (motorcycle) gang from New Zealand moved in on territory held by Australia's Gypsy Jokers, Coffin Cheaters and Club Dero, there was always going to be trouble. One shotgun wounding and two bombings later the Western Australian government has decided it's time for the New Zealand gang to take their Harley-Davidsons back home.

Today state police minister Ian Taylor called on federal immigration authorities to throw out the gang of about 20 bikies to cut short its violent feud with the four Australian gangs.

Yesterday a senior member of the New Zealand gang was shot and wounded by a rival gang member.

The shooting, which resulted in the arrest of three bikies, followed attempts last week to blow up a tattoo shop with Gypsy Joker connections and a motorcycle repair shop owned by a Mongrel Mob member.

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INTERNATIONAL

Tamil Tigers kill 21 rival militiamen

COLOMBO, Nov 27, (AP): Tamil Tiger rebels killed 21 members of a rival Tamil militant group in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, military officials and a Tamil spokesman said today.

The military officials said the killings occurred when the Tigers attacked a camp of the outlawed Tamil National Army, a new militia formed by three groups locked in a power struggle with the Tigers.

But a spokesman for one of the groups claimed the victims were civilians who only

carried arms for their own protection and were massacred when their truck broke down on a road.

"While trying to recover, Tigers attacked them and shot them dead in cold blood," the spokesman for the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front said, speaking on condition of anonymity. He was contacted by telephone in Trincomalee on Sri Lanka's east coast.

The Front routinely denies any association with the so-called Tamil National

Army. But the military and government officials, as well as many local residents, say the Front is one of the groups in the militia.

The military officials in Colombo said the Tiger assault was on a Tamil National Army camp at Pandattarippu, 18 kilometres (12 miles) north of Jaffna town. The Tigers captured at least 15 light machine-guns and several automatic rifles, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

They said it was the second big attack by the Tigers on the banned militia. The first occurred Nov 5 when the Tigers attacked two camps in the eastern district of Ampara, killing 27 members of the Tamil National Army and capturing 140. Six Tigers also died in the attack.

The Tamil National Army has been attacking the predominantly Sinhalese army and police in the east.

The confrontations stem from the Tamil separatist movement that started in 1983.

13 blacks killed in Natal violence

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 27, (AP): Thirteen blacks, including three policemen, have been killed in the latest outbreak of factional fighting in Natal province, police said today.

A total of six policemen have been killed in the province in the past week.

Police headquarters has not said whether the attacks on the policemen were connected, and its report of other killings yesterday gave few details. Feuding among political groups, rural clans, and criminal gangs have claimed more than 3,000 lives in the Zulu areas of Natal over the past three years.

Most of the fighting has been between supporters of Inkatha, a Zulu political organisation headed by Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and members of the banned United Democratic Front, a multi-racial organisation.

The front opposes the participation of Buthelezi and Inkatha in the KwaZulu homeland government; while Buthelezi condemns the front's use of boycotts and support for economic sanctions against South Africa. Buthelezi also opposes the guerrilla tactics of the African National Congress, which is affiliated with the United Democratic Front.

ANC leader Walter Sisulu, recently freed from prison, blamed the Natal violence on the government's policy of dividing blacks along tribal lines.

In a speech yesterday in Transkei, the South African-established homeland of the Xhosa people, Sisulu said, "the policy of divide and rule is one which we will destroy."

Resuscitated
He announced that the frequently interrupted attempts to bring the Natal factions together in peace talks had been "resuscitated."

Police headquarters in Pretoria said today that 10 black civilians had been killed in Natal in the previous 24 hours.

Also, police said, a black municipal policeman was hit on the head with a blunt instrument and killed yesterday in the township of Steadville, near Ladysmith; a black sergeant was shot dead by three black men as he got into his car after visiting a colleague in Gamalakhe, near Port Shepstone on Saturday night; and a reserve constable was surrounded by a group of 15 blacks and stabbed to death as he left a rural homestead near Inanda on Friday night.

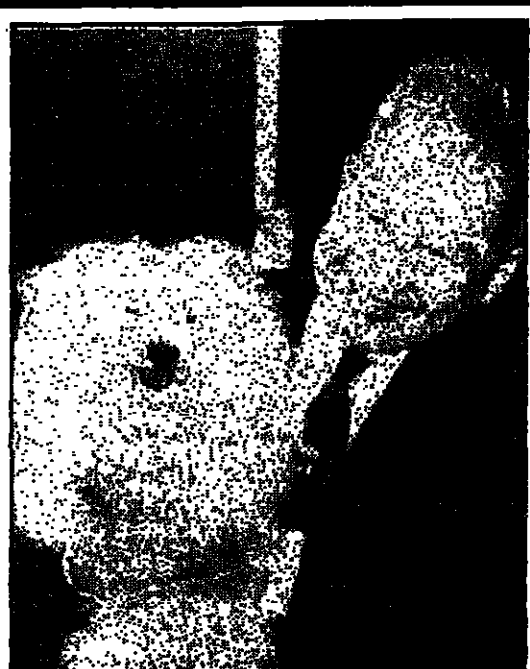
The report said most of the violence occurred at KwaMashu, a black township on the outskirts of the Indian Ocean city of Durban, where 25,000 people had marched to the local police station yesterday to present a petition accusing the police of brutality. United Democratic Front supporters say most KwaMashu police favour Inkatha, and Buthelezi is the chief of the homeland police.

Police did not say whether the violence preceded or followed the march, but one man was found stabbed to death, one beaten to death and two burnt to death. A black constable fired birdshot into a crowd, killing a man, police said.



Sisulu rally

Sisulu addressing a rally in S. Africa's tribal homeland, Transkei. (Reuter wirephoto)



Sihanouk seen here with his dog Micky before holding a press conference at his residence. (Reuter wirephoto)



Women porters rest while supplying frontline guerrilla positions with mortar rounds for an attack. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sihanouk backs Cambodia move

Call for UN trusteeship

BEIJING, Nov 27, (AP): Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk said today he supported an Australian proposal under which rival governments in Cambodia would be disbanded and the war-torn nation be put under a United Nations trusteeship.

Sihanouk said at a news conference that after the proposed trusteeship was in place, he would be willing to see the tripartite government he heads vacate its UN seat.

But the prince said he still prefers his own plan for a provisional quadripartite government in which his three-party group, which includes the Khmer Rouge, would join with the Vietnam-backed Hun Sen government in Phnom Penh.

Vietnam has rejected that plan

because of the factor of Khmer Rouge participation.

"There's no consensus. There's no way to get out of the nightmare, and the victim is the Cambodian people," Sihanouk said. "We have to come up with a new idea."

He said that as an alternative he would be willing to go along with a proposal by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans that the rival governments be dismantled and the UN oversee public affairs for a short period until UN-supervised general elections are held.

Sihanouk said he expected that some Western nations, which have voiced strong reservations about the Khmer Rouge joining any interim government, will back the proposals, but that the Khmer Rouge and

its key supporter China would reject the idea.

Vietnam invaded Cambodia in late 1978, ending three years of brutally repressive Khmer Rouge rule during which hundreds of thousands of people were killed.

In September, Vietnam withdrew what it said were its last troops from Cambodia, but war continues between the resistance and Hun Sen troops.

Both China and the Khmer Rouge demand the formation of the four-party government in which the Khmer Rouge is an equal partner.

US-backed guerrillas are preparing to lay siege to a Cambodian province capital with help from the ultra-radical Khmer Rouge, diplomats and guerrillas said.

Smugglers run lifeline

Illegal trade on Bangla-Burma border

TEKNAF, Bangladesh, (Reuter): Every night men gather on the muddy shores of the Naf river that flows between Burma (Myanmar) and Bangladesh. They peer into the darkness and wait for the goods to arrive.

Soon torches appear, boat engines whine and the smugglers' race is on.

The scores of canoe-like boats carry everything from pickles to cattle across the five km (three miles) stretch of water and are part of an illegal lifeline for local people on both sides of the border.

The job requires quick reflexes. "They are coming, they are coming," whispered one smuggler as he stood by the water near the town of Teknaf, in the southern tip of Bangladesh.

A colleague began giving orders. "We must take the supplies out and reload the boats quickly," he said.

Most of the 8,000 people in Teknaf depend on smuggling.

From Burma, smugglers bring rice, chickens, timber, cigars, crockery, textiles, nuts and beer, while medicine, diesel oil, used clothing and biscuits filter across the border from Bangladesh.

Officials in Teknaf talk openly about the flow of goods.

"The illegal trade between the two countries is booming although the Burmese authorities recently tightened checks at the border," said Shankar Kumar Das, Teknaf's administrator.

Border guards and traders said Bangladesh unofficially welcomed the rice smuggled in because it helped make up for a shortfall in production in the country's southeastern region.

"At peak times up to 5,000 tonnes of Burmese rice arrived in Bangladesh daily," one trader said.

He said the supply had dwindled recently because Burmese border guards had tightened controls and Burmese farmers in Arakan province across the river were being made to give more of their produce to the Rangoon government.

"Trade will be normal again after the harvesting season in one or two months," one official

said.

An officer with the Bangladesh Rifles, the border force, said the smuggling could go on smoothly as long as his men did not stop it.

He said border guards had orders to seize any alcohol coming in from Burma, which is banned in Muslim Bangladesh, as well as small industrial goods.

"But these really matter little in the overall illegal trade that heavily counts on rice," he said.

In official trade, Burma sells \$40 million worth of rice a year to Bangladesh and buys \$25 million in jute and jute goods.

The NAF river flows down through the Lushai hills before emptying into the Bay of Bengal. It runs along the western Burmese province of Arakan, whose hills form most of the country's 270 km (170 miles) border with Bangladesh.

The province has a Muslim majority in a country where Buddhism has traditionally been the dominant faith.

Many people in the area have more in common with their Muslim neighbours across the border than with fellow Burmese and smuggling is often a family affair.

Many Burmese and Bangladeshis visit one another using eight-hour visas introduced in 1979 by Ziaur Rahman who was then president of Bangladesh.

The visas also allow crowds of small boys and girls to carry on a lively trade each day trekking across the frontier to sell towels, combs, cosmetics and toys.

The cross-border flow of people has occasionally turned into a flood.

In 1978 more than 200,000 Burmese Muslims crossed into Bangladesh to escape persecution by the Burmese army.

Most of the refugees returned home a year later but officials say others remained behind to settle illegally on the hills and in the valleys around Cox's Bazar district, a sea resort 80 km (50 miles) from Teknaf.

"The illegal immigrants are causing both social and political problems in Bangladesh," said M.A. Kamal, district commissioner of Cox's Bazar.

media that has chipped away at the army's privileged position, charging it is lagging behind perestroika, President Mikhail Gorbachev's social reform programme.

"The army is still in stagnation with corruption and nepotism," Lt Vitly G. Urzhetshev told the crowd. "The army is the place today where conservative forces are concentrated."

He said perestroika could be doomed by a military coup engineered by "Brezhnev-era generals and marshals," referring to the rule of Leonid Brezhnev from 1964-1982.

Maria I. Kirbasova, who said she heads a committee of soldiers' mothers, told the crowd conscripts are afraid to speak out when they are beaten or sexually attacked.

Leftist revolt ending in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 27, (AP): A 41-year-old guerrilla insurgency by the Communist Party of Malaysia appears to be coming to a formal end.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad told the government-owned Radio Malaysia today that an agreement on ending the insurgency would be signed Saturday in Thailand.

Officials in Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok indicate that the legendary guerrilla leader Chin Peng is to sign an accord to dissolve the CPM and halt the armed struggle he began in 1948.

Chin Peng, in his late 60s and believed to be living in China, was last seen outside the communist world in 1955 when he emerged from the Malaysian jungle for negotiations on ending hostilities. Those talks were not successful.

Although not an event to compare with the upheavals in communist Eastern Europe, the formal end of the insurgency is a milestone for Southeast Asia.

For decades, guerrillas from jungle sanctuaries in Thailand struck across the border into Malaysia. The last major raids were in the mid-1970s, when the guerrillas assassinated senior Malaysian officers and blew up the national war memorial in Kuala Lumpur.

Large-scale defections two years ago marked an effective end to CPM threat. Thai and Malaysian authorities first offered an amnesty in 1980 for those who surrendered, and negotiations for a mass amnesty began in late 1986.

Malaysia has announced that dusk-to-dawn curfews on the east-west highway and in several other border areas would be lifted Friday. The curfew has been in force since completion in the late 1970s of the strategic road across peninsular Malaysia through what was once a guerrilla stronghold.

Mahathir told a news conference that the decision to end curfews was what once guerrilla territory was made because most of the fighters who operated there had been killed or arrested.

Remnants of the CPM are believed to number from 500 to 1,200, about half Malaysians and the rest Thai. Local lore says two Japanese soldiers who did not return after World War II are also in the jungle.

Chin Peng and his communist resistance fought the Japanese invaders on the side of the British, who were grateful enough to award him a medal, the Order of the British Empire. He went back into the jungle in 1948 to fight British colonial rule of what was then known as Malaya and continued to battle the rulers of what became independent Malaysia in 1963.

Never called a war, the "emergency" was declared over in 1960 and was considered one of the few successful efforts by a government to stamp out a communist insurgency within its borders.

A recent government statement said talks with the communists and Thai authorities made "chances of ending the CPM's armed struggle very bright."

Diarrhoea kills 20 in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Nov 27, (Reuter): At least 20 people have died from diarrhoea in northeast Bangladesh in the past month after drinking polluted water and eating rotten food, the official BSS news agency said today.

It said 11 people died in a hospital in Neurokoma town and 128 more were suffering from intestinal ailments. Nine others died on their way to the hospital.

She also demanded that mothers be allowed to deliver food to their sons, who she said are given just 1.60 roubles (\$2.60) worth of food daily and receive a monthly salary of 7 roubles (\$11.34).

But Vladimir Savostin, an officer at the Lenin military-political Academy, countered that the army makes boys into men and ready to be independent and hardworking after they are discharged. Soldiers have the full rights of every citizen to seek justice, he said.

But the Soviet press has cast a different picture, highlighting such problems as:

— Murders and torture of soldiers. Lt A. Shustov wrote in the literary journal Znamya in August that a soldier



Nemeth votes

Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth casts his vote on Nov 28 during the country's first referendum, held on the initiative of opposition organisations to determine whether Hungary will elect a president in January or after the country's first free parliamentary elections next spring. (Reuter wirephoto)

Maggie adamant

Refugees must go

LONDON, Nov 27, (UPI): The British government will begin the forced repatriation of thousands of Vietnamese boat people from Hong Kong before Christmas, the Sunday Correspondent reported yesterday.

The newspaper said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was determined to send the Vietnamese refugees back to their native country, despite opposition voiced by US President George Bush when the two leaders met Friday at Camp David.

After the Camp David talks, Thatcher described the Vietnamese refugees packed in Hong Kong's crowded refugee camps as illegal immigrants and said there was no alternative to repatriation.

"Hong Kong simply cannot go on taking them (refugees), and they will have to be repatriated, as are other illegal immigrants. The US would prefer we did not do it," Thatcher said.

Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave acknowledged in an interview with British Broadcasting Corp. radio Saturday that the United States found the impending forced repatriation unacceptable.

"What are we supposed to do?" Waldegrave asked. "(The

refugees) cannot just sit there in those camps getting cholera. We have to do something."

The government is under pressure to start repatriations before the strong seasonal winds in February beckon more boat people from the South China Sea, the paper said.

So far, about 500 of the 57,000 boat people in Hong Kong have returned to Vietnam voluntarily. A monitoring group has said the returnees were treated well, Thatcher said.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International said two of its delegates went to Hong Kong yesterday to carry out a fact-finding inquiry into the Vietnamese refugee situation.

Amnesty, which monitors abuses against political prisoners and other detainees throughout the world, said it will examine screening procedures applied to the refugees, their treatment and the conditions in which they are being held in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong has asked an independent body which specialises in helping people return to their homeland to monitor the treatment of Vietnamese boat people forcibly repatriated under a scheme due to begin next month.



To hell with compulsion

Polish pacifists burn their military cards a short distance from the presidential palace in protest against compulsory military service. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hungary votes for delay in polls

BUDAPEST, Nov 27, (Reuter): Four radical opposition parties scored a narrow victory over the government in yesterday's referendum, forcing the postponement of presidential elections from January, State Minister Imre Pozsgay said today.

He said preliminary results showed people voted in favour of delaying the ballot for the first president of the republic of Hungary until after multi-party parliamentary elections next spring, Hungary's first since 1947.

Partial results based on 91.3 per cent of votes cast, showed 50.2 per cent of voters in favour of the communist-backed plan to elect a president before parliamentary elections next spring, election officials said.

The other 49.8 per cent voted "yes" on the referendum question, indicating they favoured holding the presidential election after parliamentary elections, the partial results indicated.

Central election committee secretary Pal Kara cautioned that votes were still being counted today and that the race was extremely close on the presidential election question.

He said final results of the voting on all four referendum questions would not be announced until tomorrow morning.

The opposition coalition, made up of the smallholders party, the Free Democrats, Fidesz, and the Social Democratic Party, said Hungarians had voted "yes" by an overwhelming 95 per cent majority on the three other referendum questions.

Should the Socialist Party be prohibited from operating at the workplace.

Should the party be obliged to give the public a full accounting of its assets and wealth.

Should the workers' militia, a voluntary force loyal to the former regime, be dismantled?

Kara said 58.2 per cent of Hungary's 7.5 million eligible voters had cast ballots yesterday.

High turnout

Fidesz spokesman Tamas Kirsch said the high voter turnout marked a defeat for the two-year-old Democratic Forum, the nation's largest opposition organisation.

Forum leaders had called for a boycott of the referendum, because parliament had already decided the key issues.

"If there are losers in this referendum, it is clearly the Democratic Forum, whose call for a boycott proved to be a strategic error," said Kirsch.

If the partial results of the referendum hold up, the vote on the presidential election question would represent a minor defeat for the Free Democrats Party, which had urged Hungarians to support a delay in the presidential elections.

Leaders of the Hungarian Socialist Party favour early elections for president, reasoning that their candidate would stand a better chance of victory if polling is held before election of a new coalition parliament that is sure to be dominated by non-communists.

The referendum was backed by the Free Democrats, who gathered double the 100,000 signatures required to force the vote, the first of its kind in the East bloc.

Ivan Peto, one of the leaders of the Free Democrats, accused election officials of stalling for time before announcing final results.

Reform backed

LONDON, Nov 27, (AP): The Communist Party of Great Britain called yesterday for Eastern bloc nations to allow opposition political organisations, and urged Romans and Albania to join the reform movement that has swept across Eastern Europe.

The party, which has fewer than 8,000 members, also said NATO and the Warsaw Pact should be disbanded.

The biennial congress passed an emergency resolution calling on Eastern bloc governments to "allow alternative political organisations and parties to contest with them for the support of the people in elections."

The reforms under way in the Soviet Union and in other socialist countries marked the end of an old-style centralised state form of socialism," the resolution said.

But the party also said it was vital for reforms to begin in Romania and Albania, the two hard-line communist states that have made no gesture toward significant change.

سكدا من المال

١٥٥٠ من الاصل

Yeltsin vows to challenge Communist Party role

Ethnic violence breaks out in Caucasus

MOSCOW, Nov 27, (UPI): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said yesterday the Soviet Union will remain a one-party state, but Maverick lawmaker Boris Yeltsin vowed to challenge the Communist Party's supremacy next month at the Congress of People's Deputies.

Gorbachev, who leaves for Rome on Wednesday on a trip that will end next weekend with his Mediterranean sea summit with US President George Bush, also indicated it will take more than a decade for his 'perestroika' renewal drive to prove successful.

"At our present complex stage, the interests of consolidating society and concentrating all its sound forces on the difficult tasks of perestroika make it advisable to keep the one-party system," Gorbachev wrote in an article spanning more than two pages of Pravda, the officially party newspaper.

Gorbachev's refusal to consider a multi-party system is ironic at a time when radical forces in Eastern Europe have invoked his name in pressing for the changes sweeping Moscow's Warsaw Pact allies.

With the words, 'the new look of socialism is its human aspect,' Gorbachev faintly echoed former Czechoslovak Communist Party chief Alexander Dubcek's call for 'the human face of socialism.'

Yeltsin urged other members of his inter-regional deputies' group to lead a debate on the role of the Communist Party at the congressional session beginning on Dec 12, when lawmakers will be asked to ratify a new national constitution.

The informal group Yeltsin helped found in July, widely viewed as a precursor of the first Soviet opposition party, met at Moscow state university.

Yeltsin took aim at Article 6 of the Soviet Union's fundamental law, which reads: "The leading and guiding force of Soviet society and the nucleus of its political system, of all state and public organisations, is the Communist Party of the Soviet Union."

In recent public demonstrations, many protesters have demanded the annulment of Article 6.

In another development, twenty-one people were hurt and a town was under siege by thousands of angry demonstrators as ethnic clashes broke out between Georgians and Ossetians in the Soviet Caucasus, local authorities said today.

Tskhinvali, capital of the autonomous region of south Ossetia, has been surrounded since Friday night by thousands of Georgians, many of whom are armed, an official from the regional communist party committee told Reuters by telephone.

He said the Georgians were being held off by police and 800 Soviet Interior Ministry troops who were sent to Tskhinvali last month to keep order as ethnic tensions rose.

But clashes broke out in which 21 people were hurt, one of whom was reported in grave condition with a skull fracture.

Eighty-six Ossetians were taken hostage over the weekend in fighting in villages near Tskhinvali, but they were released today, the official said. He said many Ossetians had fled to Tskhinvali seeking protection.

Communist Party authorities in the autonomous region, which is part of the Republic of Georgia, have asked Georgian authorities to declare a curfew and send in more troops to keep order but have received no reply, the official said.

Officials in Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, could not be reached immediately for comment. A woman who answered the telephone at the Gruzinform official news agency said all reporters were in a meeting.

The violence flared after workers in south Ossetia staged a strike to demand their homeland be upgraded to an autonomous republic and be joined to north Ossetia, which lies across the mountainous border in the Russian federation.

On Nov 10, the regional governing council voted for autonomy and also demanded official state status for the Ossetian language in Georgia.

Georgian demonstrators angered by the demands converged on Tskhinvali in 230 buses and 400 cars on Friday evening, a spokeswoman for the South Ossetian Popular Front said.



Yeltsin (right) and Afanasyev.

Lubbers against reunited Germany

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Nov 27, (AP): Premier Ruud Lubbers implicitly warned today that East and West Germany should not be reunited, and predicted a greater security role for the 12-nation European Common Market.

"The gaps that have now been made in the Berlin Wall symbolise the approaching end for unfreedom in the other part of Europe," Lubbers told Parliament in his first major policy speech since beginning his third term in office Nov 7.

However, the Dutch leader warned that "respect for territorial boundaries as they now are" was an essential element for improved co-operation between Eastern and Western Europe.

He spoke in apparent reference to speculation, sparked by the Nov 9 lifting of East German travel restrictions, that the two Germanys eventually may be reunited.

Earlier today, Defence Minister Ruud Beuk told reporters he regarded the prospect of German reunification as "embedded" in the more general issue of increased co-operation between Eastern and Western Europe.

"It's important that there be not only a German opening toward the East, but a European opening toward the East as well," Beuk said after meeting with US Defence Secretary Richard Cheney.

The Dutch officials' comments appeared to echo the views of Willy Brandt, former West German chancellor and architect of that nation's recognition of its communist sister state in the early 1970s.

Brandt repeatedly has said German reunification was not on the political agenda and should be made contingent on improved relations between both European power blocs.

Lubbers' and Beuk's statements also came despite a recent opinion poll that found 60 per cent of the Dutch population favours reuniting the two Germanys and does not believe it would lead to renewed German political and military domination of Europe.

The Netherlands suffered under its eastern neighbour during World War II, when German troops occupied this nation from 1940-45 and deported hundreds of thousands of Dutch Jews to Nazi death camps.

Lubbers, a Christian Democrat, made no direct reference to the reunification issue. He warned of "possible backlashes and destabilising aspects" as Eastern Europe works its way toward greater democracy and openness.

He added the Netherlands, which recently gave several million guilders (dollars) in emergency aid to Poland and Hungary, would continue to give such help. He also predicted the European Economic Community eventually would play a much greater role in determining the security policies of its members.

Scores of children have been left behind in East Germany, some of them alone at home, by parents who have joined the emigration wave to West Germany, an official East Berlin newspaper said today.

The trade union daily Tribune said most of the department parents had handed their offspring over to grandparents, cousins, neighbours or state-run children's shelters.

East Germany's Communist Party today criticised its 2.3-million-member youth organisation and Czechoslovakia's communist leadership for the route each had chosen during the recent period of reform.

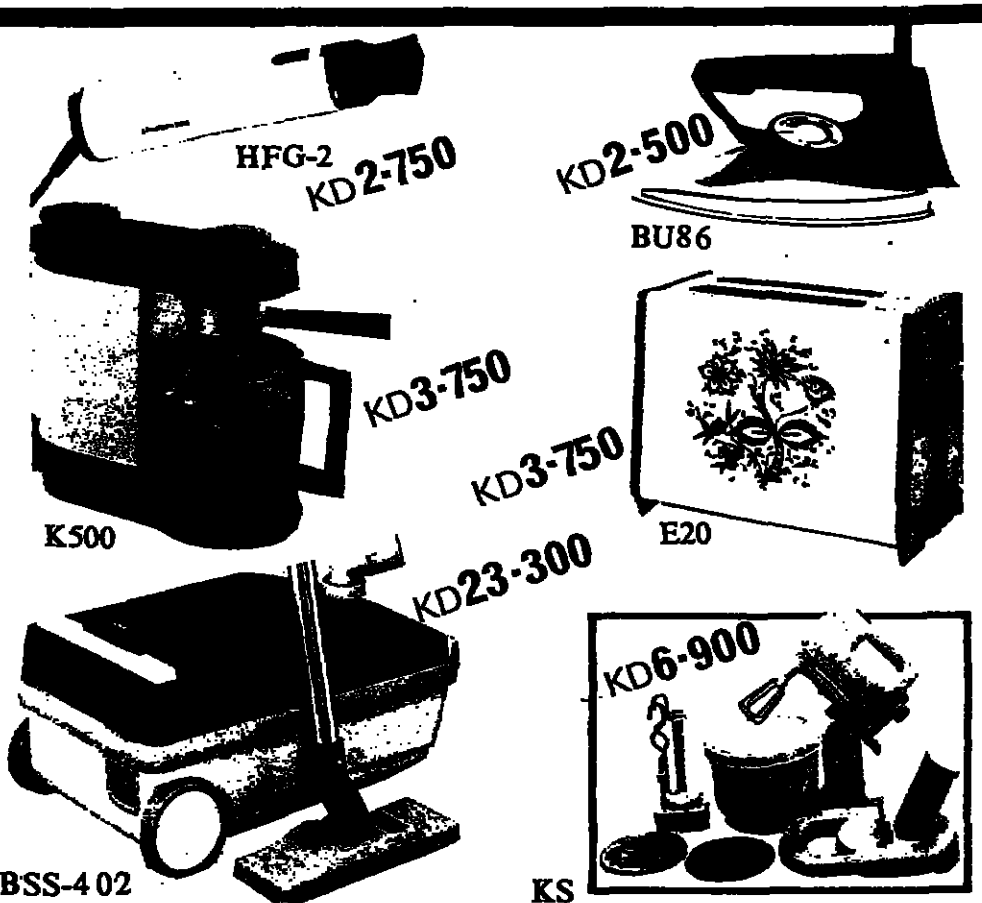
East Germany's Communist Party will consider proposals next month setting a mandatory retirement age for party leaders and limiting the number of terms elected officials can serve, the party newspaper Neues Deutschland said today.

No US troop cuts before arms deal: Cheney

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Nov 27, (AP): US Defence Secretary Richard Cheney has promised the Dutch government that no US troops will be withdrawn from Europe because of spending cuts without a superpower agreement on conventional arms, the government announced today.

Cheney also said he expected the Vienna-based talks on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) to be followed by another round of disarmament negotiations between Nato and the Warsaw Pact, Dutch Defence Minister Ruud Beuk said after meeting with Cheney for several hours yesterday and today.

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Relations with neighbours distinguished: Saud

No problems with Bush administration

WASHINGTON, Nov 27, (Kuna): Kuwait's Ambassador to Washington, Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Sabah, described Kuwait's relations with its neighbours as "distinguished" and said "our ties with the two superpowers are strong and based on mutual respect."

Addressing the eighth annual conference for the National Union of Kuwaiti Students, US branch last night, Sheikh Saud said "our relations with the United States are strong" and that the visit of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah to Washington last year was an example of the strong relations between the two countries.

"We have no problems with the current US administration when we ask to purchase new weapons," said the ambassador. He added, "although we might not agree with them on some issues, especially on foreign policy, our differences should not be an obstacle to improving bilateral relations."

Policy
Speaking before more than 200 students, Sheikh Saud stressed that Kuwait supports the policy of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in achieving Palestinian rights.

"We will support whatever option the PLO chooses," said the ambassador. Kuwait adheres to the Arab summit

resolutions which chose the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and supports the Palestine Liberation Organisation, he said.

On Lebanon, Sheikh Saud expressed Kuwait's determination to support legitimacy in Lebanon and called on the Lebanese people to put their differences aside and unite behind their new president.

Ties

"We hope that security will prevail in Lebanon especially after the formation of the new government," said the ambassador.

On Kuwaiti-Iraqi relations, he said Kuwait has strong ties with Iraq and des-

cribed the two countries' bonds as "fraternal."

Moving to other issues, he said Iran appreciates the political role played by Kuwait in the region, and for that it initiated contacts with Kuwait and we shared their wish to return relations to its normal level.

Commenting on Kuwait's role in the region, he disclosed that South Yemen asked Kuwait last month to mediate with the United States to restore diplomatic relations. He said Kuwait agreed to accept this role and held contacts with the United States and now there are direct contacts between the US and South Yemen in New York.

Omariya residents want more security

OMARIYA Area, located in Farwaniya Governorate, was a good model to other residential areas. It was considered one of Kuwait's better organised areas, characterised by clean streets, beautiful gardens and yards, huge houses and trees along the sides of the streets.

A local daily visited Omariya and interviewed a number of residents there to learn their views on public services and utilities.

Abdul Latif Al Dwaile described Omariya as a prestigious area.

He said that it had well organised streets which reflected efforts made by officials at Kuwait Municipality to follow up cleanliness and other conditions.

He added that garbage containers were available at all times and garbage bags were put at their specified places by residents there.

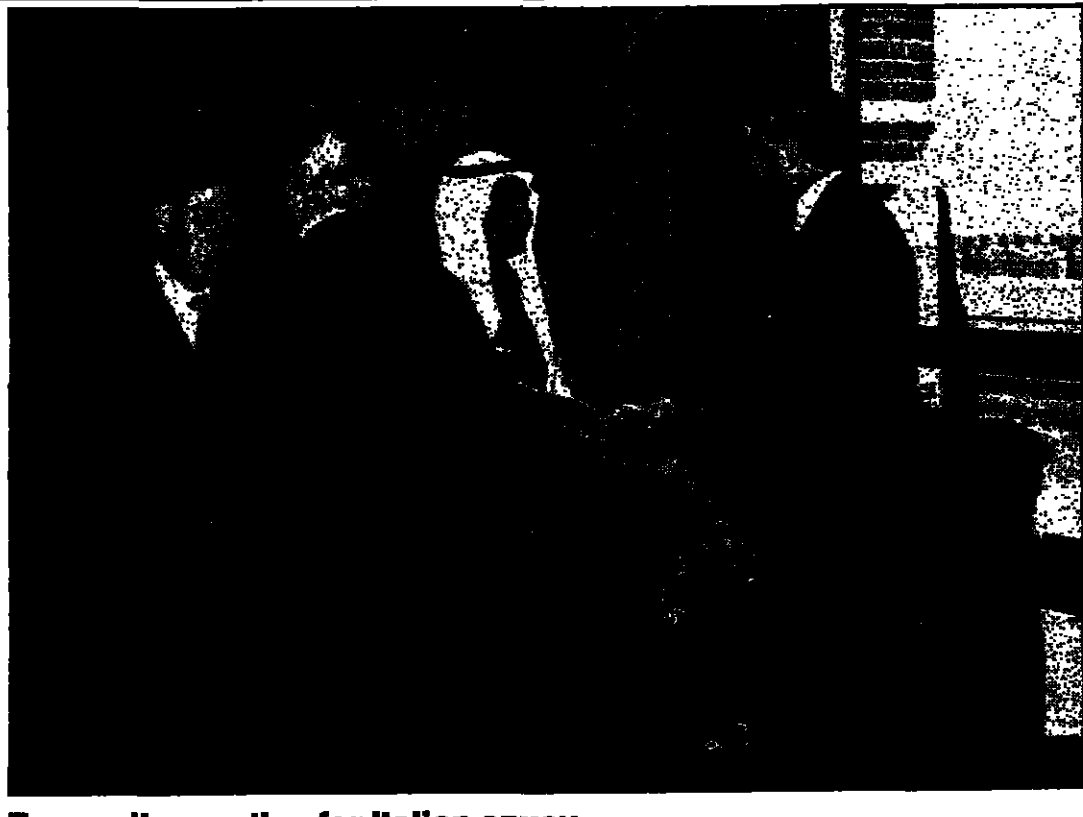
He stated that most residents in Omariya felt some shortages in security services of the police station there.

He said a number of thefts have occurred in the past few months.

He called upon officials at Omariya Police Station to have more security patrols during late night hours and to put an end to other problems mostly caused by youths and reckless drivers.

Faisal Yousif called upon officials at the Ministry of Interior to put more security patrols and guards at the zoo to prevent fights and other disputes which occurred among youths regularly. He said that many families face harassment from reckless youths while in the garden.

Yousif also said that Omariya had no public libraries and urged the establishment of one to benefit students and other residents.



Farewell reception for Italian envoy

Undersecretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen held a reception at the Foreign Ministry premises on Sunday in honour of Italian Ambassador Lucio Forattini who has ended his tenure to Kuwait. Picture shows Shaheen and Forattini receiving the ambassadors of Romania and Bulgaria.

MPW combatting foul smell

THE director of the planning and follow-up office at the sanitary engineering department at the Ministry of Public Works, Dr Waseemah Al Issa, said that the ministry executed a number of plans within the framework of its project to combat the foul smell that emanates in various parts of the country.

She told a local daily that the ministry was about to carry out a number of ambitious projects to help control the stench and reduce related costly maintenance and operation services, which, among other things, would include the construction of long-stretching sanitary tunnels that would ultimately make the existing pumping and lifting stations redundant.

The department made every effort to upgrade the performance of its various sanitary networks and related services around the country, despite the difficulties involved in operation and maintenance, Issa said.

She added that the flatness of the land in Kuwait did not provide the needed slope angle for sanitary wastes to flow inside the sewers and that with a rise in temperature and stagnation of the waste effluent, a process of slow fermentation was bound to take place, and this was ultimately responsible for the emanation of the bad smell.

The misuse by some people of the sanitary networks and careless disposal of solid wastes, lubricants and sometimes construction material would negatively affect the performance of these networks. This would cause clogging, resulting in continual floodings and further emanation of bad smells. The time and cost required to get these impaired networks back to functioning again would be high, Issa said.

She added that the department was currently expanding the sewage recycling plant in Ardiya to upgrade its performance and step up its working capacity. This was part of the project to control bad smells.

She also said that the project was meant to use treated water for agricultural purposes. Large amounts of this water was used to irrigate planted areas in Sulabiya, and provide needed irrigation water for the landscaping works in progress in various localities in the country.

Issa pointed out that the department was also carrying out a closed circuit television scanning of the public sanitary network in Kuwait City to evaluate its current performance level and make the necessary improvements where needed.

Shuaiba requires upgrading: Zamel

THE director-general of the Shuaiba Area Authority Abdul Karim Al Zamel has called for more attention to the Shuaiba Area, which provides 92 per cent of the total national income of Kuwait.

He told a local daily that government guests were in the past taken on a tour of the area, but it has been a very long time since the area has had any official visitors.

Kuwait had, for years, been a leading industrial country in the Gulf region, but now so many countries have caught up and even got ahead of Kuwait, Zamel said. This is attributed to the lust for easy gain and the lingering bad effects of the Manakh crisis, he added.

Zamel said that industrialisation is the central pillar of any national economic structure, and that failure to constantly develop, follow-up and improve will prevent us from attaining the required international standards.

He said the authority was preparing to celebrate its 25th anniversary on Dec 23, for three days, during which a symposium on industrialisation would be held with lecturers representing different Gulf, Arab and international organisations.

He added that the symposium would be held under the title, "Towards Better Industrial Development."

The opening ceremony would include a display of the various activities undertaken by the authority, and would also include a special function to honour the former chairman of the board and ministers who had once worked at the authority, Zamel said.

He added that a special informational programme has been prepared for this occasion to introduce to the public the various activities and important industries undertaken by the authority.

Kuwaitis struggling to make ends meet

High cost of living bemoaned

By Nawwal Al Hamil

DESPITE the fact that the per capita income for a Kuwaiti citizen was considered one of the highest in the world, some Kuwaitis complain of low salaries due to the high cost of living. The Kuwaiti citizen's per capita has exceeded the \$20,000 per year during the 1970's. Despite a decline in this rate, it is still considered to be one of the highest in the world.

The Kuwaiti government provides Kuwaiti citizens with many work opportunities yet some Kuwaitis refuse to work in general and especially in technical jobs. Most Kuwaiti youths are found to be more interested taking up administrative and office jobs in general.

Statistics show that the percentage of Kuwaiti manpower in the private and government sectors is still very low, despite government directives towards encouraging individuals to work for the private sector.

Statistics indicated that only 14 per cent of the total manpower in the country was Kuwaiti, whereas Kuwaitis only represent 1.6 per cent of the total manpower in the private sector. These figures came in a statistical research conducted in both sectors towards the end of last year. During the same period expatriate manpower represented 98.4 per cent of total manpower in the private sector.

This leaves the conclusion that complaints of low salaries resulted from the weak response of

Kuwaitis towards occupying positions in the private and government sectors.

Other statistics showed that there were nearly 100,000 maids living in Kuwait at the time and more than half a million vehicles, revealing the fact that most Kuwaitis were interested only in prestige.

Seyassa interviewed a number of Kuwaiti citizens currently working in different government sectors to learn about their financial problems.

A citizen currently working in the oil sector said that his salary exceeded KD700. He had a small family of three children, a wife, a maidservant, a maid and a family driver. Although his salary looked large, he said it was not enough to cover expenses. He said he paid KD50 to the driver, KD35 to the maidservant, KD35 to the maid, KD150 for electricity and telephone bills, KD80 monthly as car instalments, KD35 as instalment on his government house, in addition to other expenditures such as house furniture, children's recreational needs, travelling and other family requirements.

Expenses
A university graduate who is currently working in the government sector received KD410 monthly. He said that he was currently paying KD250 as rent, and the government only gave KD100 towards it. In addition to the flat rent, he said KD30 for his maid, KD100 for car instalments and KD20 was cut from his salary monthly by the bank

for marriage. He said that there was only KD110 left from the salary to cover all family needs throughout the month.

A group of retired Kuwaiti citizens who also complained of the high cost of living were interviewed by Seyassa.

One of them said that his pension was KD350 per month. He had already sold half of his salary to the Public Establishment for Social Securities in order to obtain a large lumpsum. He added that he had already used up all this money for living costs. He said he had 12 children and three wives.

He said it was difficult for him to provide such a big family including maids, with their needs. He felt that he had made a mistake by selling half his pension. He called upon the government to increase pensions by paying social allowances for all children of retired persons.

Another citizen stated that his pension was not enough to cover his family's needs. He added that he had worked at a ministry and demanded to be retired. He regretted that and hoped that he could get back to his old job.

Another citizen said that he had to find a parttime job to get extra money which helped him in at least paying the maid salary and house rent. He encouraged Kuwaiti youths to join private companies for part time jobs adding that such jobs were honest and could benefit them. He complained that the social allowance for children was not enough to meet living expenses.



Ahmadi Cleanliness Week opens

The First Cleanliness Week at Ahmadi Governorate was opened under the patronage of the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs, Mohammed Al Rifai.

The opening was also attended by Ahmadi Governor, Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem, and members of the governorate council.

In his opening speech Rifai said that cleanliness cannot be imposed by passing laws and by punishment, but by faith and practice in daily life. He said that cleanliness was required of people by God and reflected a person's real personality and loyalty to the country.

He said that one of the first duties and activities of

Kuwait Municipality sixty years ago was to ensure cleanliness in the country.

A member of the higher committee formed to celebrate the week, Mohammed Al Utaihi, said in his speech that the week was meant to enlighten the public about cleanliness and encourage them to co-operate with the authorities to keep the country clean.

He said that Islam ordered Muslims to be clean and the government spent large sums on cleanliness projects.

Rifai (left) Utaihi (centre) and Sheikh Ali Sabah are seen going round the exhibition.

Education Ministry counteracts problems

THE undersecretary of the Higher Education Ministry, Mused Al Haroon, said that ministry supervises the workings of the general education facilities, which offered specialised learning to secondary education graduates.

He told a local daily that the relation between his ministry and the Education Ministry was an integrated relation, stressing that there was no functional entanglement between the two ministries.

He said the university and Public Authority for Applied Education, in co-operation with all higher education establishments, continuously conducted research on negative phenomena associated with students such as cheating, negligence, smoking, and psychological problems, and helped find solutions to these problems.

He pointed out that the ministry also had good co-operation ties with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour in the field of research done on anti-social activities, and ways to counteract and contain related problems.

He said that the ministry paid considerable attention to research made in different scientific disciplines by students, and that students affairs offices continuously encouraged students to continue research-oriented activities to develop their personal talents and refine their skills.

He added that special prizes were offered to students submitting good research subjects, within the framework of programmes developed for this purpose at the dean's level, to reward well-prepared subjects based on scientific criteria.

He said that the ministry's relevant personnel were currently preparing the organisational structure, and that a special committee was in charge of this task, which was scheduled for completion next month, adding that the committee was also involved in preparing an organisational guide for the ministry and another for the different ministry posts.

He said that seats offered by some countries for Kuwaiti students in their universities did not always meet with Kuwait's

needs, and that under such circumstances Kuwait would select those specialisations which were required at its governmental or semi-governmental establishments.

He pointed out that students qualified to go on scholarships offered by the ministry had to meet the fixed grade limit specified for each field of specialisation, while those wishing to benefit from educational grants offered by international universities to Kuwait would have to meet the standards and grade limit individually established by each university.

He said that the ministry had formed a government committee with representatives from Kuwait University, the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, for the purpose of laying down a set of constraints and a code for annual awards of scholarships and to grants offered by Kuwait University to students from abroad.

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This is how Alais Khouri, President of Impact & Echo Middle East Network, opened his speech on the occasion of the official nomination of Fady Khalifa to the position of General Manager of Impact & Echo, Salim B. Samman Group Vice President. Chief Operating Officer adds: "I am very proud. We are a network of Middle East Agencies that has the capability and capacity to attract and grow executives from within, up to the highest Management positions. I would like to congratulate and thank Oscar and Fady for their achievements."

Indeed, both Jamhour and Khalifa started with Impact & Echo International more than seven years ago, while Samman and Khouri were successfully building Impact & Echo as Agency Associated with BBDO worldwide Group.

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Left to right: Standing, Salim Samman Vice President Chief Operating Officer, Alais Khouri President

Sitting: Fady Khalifa and Oscar Jamhour

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Shrimp ban to balance ecology, says Rushood

THE director of the Fish Resources Department at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Adnan Al Rushood has expressed satisfaction of the successful measures adopted by the authority to ban shrimp hunting.

He said that the shrimp catch during the first month after lifting the ban last year equalled the total shrimp catch in the season of the year before, stressing that the authority's measures on shrimp-hunting were first and foremost in the best interests of consumers.

The price per kilo for shrimps during the last and present season had reached KD1, which was a price that never was recorded in the previous three or four years.

The price of a basketful of shrimps decreased from KD 70, to 50 through 28 until 20, Rushood said.

He pointed out that quantities of shrimps hunted were very large in the wake of the hunting ban effected by the authority and that the catch reached four and a half tons of shrimps in matter of one and a half months.

Study

He said that the results of a study conducted by the authority in co-operation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research showed that the scouring method of hunting had left bad effects on sea bottoms and on the shrimp fingerlings, as the scouring force per square metre was very high, which also caused problems of different sorts.

He said the important thing was to guide the hunting patterns and correct the erroneous ways used by individual hunters, as this not only devastated shrimp spawns but also caused irreparable damage to their ecological habitat.

He said that the scouring method of hunting was just about the only good way for catching shrimps, however it must be used moderately and rationally so that we could allow egg-laying shrimps a chance for another life-cycle to ensure the continuity of shrimp life and consequently of shrimps as a seafood delicacy.

He pointed out that in order to rationalise the primitive erroneous hunting methods, extensive experiments and research had to be done whereby even the holes of the nets used to catch shrimp had to be measured and accurately decided whereby the shrimp fingerlings would be under no danger of getting caught, and thus ensure another profuse catch in next year's season.

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Economist predicts improved stock market performance in 1990

Funds establishment law expected soon

THE well-known Kuwaiti economist, Jasssem Al Sadoun, said that indications point to a projected improvement in the performance of the Kuwait Stock Market in 1990 compared with the current year.

He told a local daily that the trading volume would increase during the next year for many reasons, mainly the consistent and steady establishment of investment portfolios and funds, which would bring on a slight rise in the share prices of certain financial companies and banks, such as the National Bank of Kuwait.

He added that this would require companies whose share prices were decreasing to reconsider their prices, which would eventually lead to rise in prices and better trading activities.

Sadoun said that the projected price improvement could happen in the second half of 1990, but could also never happen if it was intercepted by the delay in the establishment of the investment portfolios and funds.

He added that the law on the establishment of investment, financial and real estate funds was expected to be issued shortly, and ten or eleven funds would be expected to be set up following the publication of the law.

The volume of traded shares was better in 1988 than in the current year due to several reasons, one of which was the cessation of the Iran-Iraq war, the issue of the law calling on all companies to offer 10 per cent of their shares for sale which was actually implemented (1989) came true and had had effects on the trading activities at Kuwait's Stock Market, which was exactly what had been happening over the past months.

He said that the market dealers were better informed than before and more proficient in their business, as they were taking more time to study the financial situation of companies before they offered to trade in their shares.

Dealers are no longer naive and would not believe anything or anyone as quickly as they did before, now that the companies had lost their credibility, Sadoun said.

KAC plan to improve performance: Mishari

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

THE new philosophy and slogan for continuous development and positive change of Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) was "Together We Make the Difference," the chairman and managing director, Ahmed Al Mishari, said.

During a press conference at KAC headquarters yesterday, he said KAC was now launching a new major development plan to upgrade the services, equipment and staff performance of KAC to prepare it to face further competition.

He said the plan had internal and external aspects.

The internal plan included fleet modernisation with replacement of existing aircraft, and refurbishment of the fleet starting with the interior decor of Boeing 747s from July 1990.

He said that improvement in productivity and management would follow from development of the information and computer systems with use of the new generation of computers.

Staff would continue to attend customer relations training courses that began early this year to present a better image of KAC.

The Information Desk would be provided with facilities for instant information for customers.

Mishari said the external plan focused on co-operation with other carriers in some fields, such as the project of the Marriott GCC at Heathrow Airport, the combined insurance project of KAC, Gulf Air, and Saudi Airlines, and the combined fueling project.

KAC was also currently studying operating new routes to the Far East, Australia and South America.

Speaking about the Global Distribution System, Mishari said that this project would be implemented next year.

He said that KAC, along with other Arab and foreign carriers, participated in the Egyptian Company for Aviation Services at Cairo Airport.

Mishari said another study was under way with Egypt Air to set up an air taxi company, and he expected the decision to be announced soon.

He said that deals with international carriers were also under consideration about co-operation in code sharing.

He said that development plans would be enhanced as KAC prepared to enter the 1990s.

Bashir outlines plans to attract Arab investments

Sudan to ease development procedures

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (Kuna): Sudan's strongman Gen. Omar Al Bashir arrived here today for a two-day visit to Kuwait on the first leg of a Gulf tour aimed at restoring economic assistance to Sudan and reviving bilateral relations with the oil-rich Arab countries.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, head of the National Guard, ministers, governors, dean of the diplomatic corps, senior government officials and Sudanese embassy staff greeted the guest upon arrival at the airport.

Bashir is accompanied by chairman and the former Interim Military Council Gen. Abdul Rahman Swar Al Dhab, Industry Minister Mohamed Ahmed Omar, Energy Minister Abdul Muneim Khojali, the council's secretary Col Abdulla al Mahmoud and State Minister for Defence Major-General Othman Mohamed Al Hassan.

Bashir is hopeful to attract Arab investors to take part in the development process in his country with new measures being taken to ensure the flow of Arab capital.

"We have worked out a new investment act and we believe that the atmosphere is convenient for Arab investments after many had distanced themselves due to the spread of corruption and deterioration in other fields," Bashir was quoted as saying in a joint interview with a local Kuwaiti daily and a Qatari newspaper.

In the interview, Bashir said: "We embarked on a purging campaign, organised an economic conference, intending to achieve peace and ease procedures to ensure the flow of Arab capital for investment in Sudan."

Gen Bashir who came to power after a bloodless coup last June threatened to sack anyone who doesn't believe in the revolution.

Defending the wide-scale



HH the Amir with Gen. Bashir upon his arrival to Kuwait.

purge in his country, Gen. Bashir said: "For the sake of reforms and discipline we had to substitute some employees in several institutions to be able to implement the new policies.... We could not avoid a purge which covered the armed force, police and other institutions."

Asked on the reported dispute between the army and police institutions in Sudan due to alleged favouritism to the army over the police by the Revolutionary Command Council, Gen. Bashir replied by a question, "after the sacking of the police director and 71 of his officers we sacked the army's commander-in-chief, the chief of staff and more than 200 officers and now could it be said that we favour the army to the police?"

Gen. Bashir downplayed mediatory efforts exerted by former US president Jimmy Carter to organise a dialogue between the Sudanese government and the rebel Sudan's People's Liberation Movement and appreciated Egypt's role in settling the problem of South Sudan.

"What Carter had done is not but continuation of the serious efforts initiated by the Sudanese government," he said.

Asked on the difference between the US stand and that of the World Council of Churches, believed to be sympathising with the main Christian and Islamist southern rebels, Gen. Bashir said: "We have no proof that the US is supporting Garang's movement." John Garang is the leader of the insurgency in the southern part of the country. The SPLM is fighting the Khartoum government since 1983 for alleged domination of the south by the Muslim north.

He said Egypt is a sister state which shares the responsibility of Sudan's security.

"Egypt is a partner in the peace process. It is the current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and consequently responsible for settling the continent's problems and above all Egypt is a sisterly state that undertakes with Sudan all its security responsibilities. Due to this it moves positively," he said.

Noting that the world is swept by political reforms aimed at democratisation and introduction of multi-party systems, the interviewers question Gen. Bashir whether he was swimming against the current by disbanding political parties in his country.

"What was existing in Sudan was not real democracy or else sectarian leadership would not have succeeded in coming to power every time. If the previous regime was a democratic one we should have been the first to protect it because we (the army) had contributed to restoration of democracy in Sudan before. We wanted it (democracy) to be practiced decently but regrettably it was consecrated for settling personal accounts and realising private and family interests. Therefore, the Sudanese people contended that the then existing regime was not a democratic one," he noted.

Comet on film

The Okazaki-Levy-Rudenko comet has been photographed by Wafra Observatory. This comet reached its brightest point between 19 and 26 November this year. It is expected to reach its closest distance to earth on Dec 11. It will be about 77 million kilometres away.

The Okazaki-Levy-Rudenko comet is at present in the Virgo area of the sky and can be seen near the horizon about an hour before dawn. This comet is one of the brightest comets after Halley's comet.

Traffic laws not despotic: Hajji

Crackdown on pavement parking

By Sayed Usman

THE deportation of drivers who repeat serious and dangerous violations was continuing, the director-general of the General Traffic Department, Brigadier Abdul Hameed Al Hajji, said.

These violations included passing through the red signal, speeding and using vehicles for transporting people at roadsides for money.

He said the GTD did not deport violators after committing one violation but after making sure his record included several repeat violations.

He stressed that the GTD did not issue confusing and despotic decisions in this respect. Those who did not respect the laws did not deserve to live in Kuwait.

Hajji said it was noticed that traffic violations had fallen since application of the decision to deport drivers who committed serious violations.

He said that those who respected the laws of the country would be treated with respect.

Hajji said the GTD will shortly take strict measures against cars that park on pavements.

These cars will be towed away by crane. The violators will have to pay the charges for crane use, demerage charges for the cars stay detained for a day or more, as well as the traffic fine.

He denied claims that car parking areas were insufficient for the increasing number of cars in the country. Though this was not the responsibility of the GTD, public car parks were distributed in different parts of the country.

He said drivers had no reason to complain about such a problem or to park their cars in prohibited places.

He said the GTD intended to issue learners licences (istimara) probably early in 1991 immediately after the opening of driving schools.

Hajji said that the strict penalties for some traffic violations in the new amendments to the traffic law were meant to reduce violations and traffic accidents. He added that these amendments



Hajji - respect

were still being studied by the concerned authorities.

He denied that traffic policemen were waiting to nab drivers committing traffic violations or mistakes in order to record violations against them. It was wrong to attribute bad motives to them. He said that policemen were there to help people and guide them.

He added that traffic police were given clear instructions to help drivers in emergencies and urgent cases, such as allowing them to park in front of pharmacies to buy medicines.

Driving schools

Reverting to the question of istimaras, he said there will be no problem after the schools have opened because anyone wanting a learners licence would be allowed to join a driving school. But he would not be given a driving licence until he completed the educational and practical programmes of the school and passed the driving tests.

The driving schools will be under the direct supervision of the GTD which will prepare the curriculum and training system. He said the GTD now made an exception for some categories of expatriates who needed learners licences in order to facilitate their work.

Hajji said that the GTD took into consideration the human circumstances and cases, whether for women or men. If it felt that anyone needed the driving licence urgently he was given an istimara, he said. The GTD doors were open to study and meet these cases, he said.

Hajji pointed out that expatriates who want to use the driving licences of their countries to get Kuwaiti driving licence were subjected to driving tests to make sure they were familiar with driving and traffic regulations. The GTD issued istimaras for them to get training before tests. This procedure was also adopted to prevent those with forged driving licences from their countries from getting a Kuwaiti

licence, he said.

He also said that present number plate of vehicles was sufficient and there was no intention to change them.

He added that drivers who want to travel in their cars specially to Europe may be able to change the plate number of their cars to new plates written in English. A proposal about this was being studied at the GTD, he said.

He described the present car technical inspection in the country as a primitive one. The GTD has a plan to be put into effect from the beginning of next year to use a computer for inspecting cars.

This would reduce road accidents caused by defects in vehicles.

He said that GTD has not yet issued the executive decision to give some garages authority to make the technical inspection of the vehicles. The memorandum will be reviewed by the Higher Traffic Council after being completed.

The garages authorised to inspect cars will be obliged to use modern computers in their work. Officers from the GTD will supervise work at these garages, he added.

He said the GTD was in continuous contact with the Public Transportation Company to provide it with information about its bus drivers and their violations. All these drivers are given driving tests before working with the company. The GTD notifies the company about drivers who drive at high speeds in order to take required action against them.

He said that using pickups (vanettes) to transport passengers was considered a serious violation.

Public buses were running on all roads which meant that people had no justification or reason to use vanettes instead of buses.

He added that the GTD cannot oblige taxi drivers to go to any place to serve people. These drivers can go to places that are crowded with passengers to take them and make their livelihood, he said.

Hajji pointed out that GTD began strict control on the call-taxis several months ago. It seized a number of violating companies working in this service and closed three companies.

He said that the transfer of senior GTD officials was a positive step to develop traffic work and to benefit from the experience of these officers.

The directors of traffic departments had full authority to run their departments, he said.

Oil leak plugged

AN oil leak from a Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) pipeline has been sealed, an official source at the Environment Protection Council said.

He said that the National Planning Committee for Anti-Oil Pollution was always on the alert for fighting such leakages. He said the committee co-ordinated its efforts with KOC anti-pollution units, as well as the Shuaiba Port Authorities to control the situation.

He said the units had succeeded in halting the leakage and the polluted area was sealed off by barriers.

He said the leaked oil would be skimmed.

Meanwhile, the source said the incident would not cause a danger to the environment. Pollution control units, however, were checking the adjacent areas to make sure the oil had not spread.

Goan invitation

MEMBERS of the Goan community in Kuwait are invited for a gathering at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel next Friday, Dec 1 at 11.30 am.

It will be recalled that at the last meeting of the Goan community held on Nov 10 at the Indian embassy auditorium, it was resolved to constitute a Goan federation representing the Goan community in Kuwait. Over 60 Goans were nominated at village level to participate as members of the larger Goan Community Forum.

This release is issued by the steering committee.

Private sector called on to promote health

KUWAIT'S Minister of Planning and Acting Minister of Health Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, called on the private sector to contribute to the medical services.

He described this contribution as an important one which would promote health services.

Dr Awadi yesterday opened the third Kuwait Medical Fair organized by Kuwait International Exhibition and at the Fairground in Mishref area.

After the inauguration ceremony Dr

Awadi told reporters the ministry was ready to provide many facilities to the private sector.

Meanwhile Awadi said that the private sector had recently submitted to the ministry two renal stone disintegrators in addition to the apparatus currently used at the Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital.

Awadi praised the contribution of the medical companies at the Medical Fair particularly the contribution of Kuwait Phar-

maceuticals Industries Company (KPIC).

He described the fair as a showcase for the country to see the latest technology in the medical area.

He said this kind of fairs was the best way to introduce the best technology and to spread health awareness. Later, Awadi went around the pavilions where 50 local, Arab and foreign firms had displays, including Saudi Arabia, Poland, Egypt, Holland, Switzerland, Cuba, Greece, West Germany, UK and USA.

Budget deficit still biggest problem: Roumi

A SEMINAR on the theme "The deficit in the budget — the grounds and outcomes" opened yesterday at the Kuwait-based Arab Planning Institute (API).

The seminar was inaugurated by the institute's director general and the chairman of the advisory committee at the institute, Abdullah Mohammed Ali.

The opening session was presided over by the assistant under-secretary for budget affairs at Kuwait's Ministry of Finance, Abdulaziz Sulaiman Al Roumi.

In his opening speech, Roumi said that the budget occupied an important position in all economic systems and was considered as an economic policy instrument. It also mirrored the economic development represented by revenue increase and public expenditure.

He noted that during the last few years the rise in expenditure did not coincide with an increase in revenues, adding that this was reflected in the large deficit in the budget. He said this constituted a general situation in Arab countries, whether oil or non-oil.

The continuing deficit required several measures, such as withdrawal from reserves, liquidating some assets, the floating of treasury bills and sometimes by enhancing of banknotes or borrowing either from local or foreign banks, the official said.

But he added that the latter choices would increase inflation rates and foreign debts burdens. The seminar debated several working papers submitted by the delegations of Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Tunisia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Libya and Somalia.

In his working paper Dr Zaki Ramzi from Egypt said that the budget deficit in the Third World countries was considered the biggest problem facing these countries. He added that this problem was the centre of economic programmes of these countries.

The paper had adopted two suggestions for the solving of the deficit problem in Arab countries. The first called for minimising the state's role in the national economy while the second called for independent development which could be realised, among other ways, by increasing taxes and austerity in addition to increasing the national product.

Dr Wadea Sharayha from Jordan talked about the deficit in the Jordanian budget. He said the budget was suffering a deficit since establishment of the state, but this was covered in the past by foreign assistance. He added in the last few years the government had resorted to foreign borrowing.



Hong Kong products promotion

The Hong Kong Trade Development Council organised a visit for a 18 member business group of leading Hong Kong manufacturers and exporters of a wide range of top quality competitively priced products. The delegation met with businessmen interested in trade with Hong Kong from November 25-27, 1989 at the Sheraton Hotel in Kuwait. During their stay samples of products such as household products, kitchen utensils, electronics and electrical items, ready-made garments, toys, gift items, batteries, stationery, watches and many more were displayed.

خطا لبريدك في دوكان فوسفات
يتم إرسال البريد الإلكتروني من
مركز خدمة العملاء في
مبنى مركز فوسفات
شارع ٣٠ فوسفات
فون: ٥٣٣٩٥٩٧ - ٥٣٣٨٨٩١
فاكس: ٥٣٣٨٨٩١

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

IN quietness and in confidence shall be your strength
— The Book of Isaiah.

Discontent grows across China

LANZHOU, China, (AP): A poster that went up during the first months of classes this fall at Lanzhou University declared that the student-led pro-democracy movement was not over.

Across China in the southern province of Canton, a college student was caught stuffing leaflets in mailboxes and bicycle baskets, pledging a "struggle to the end."

Pamphlets written by extreme leftists, criticizing senior leader Deng Xiaoping as a capitalist, and by reformists, calling him senile, have appeared in the mail of Chinese and foreigners in several cities.

Students in southwestern Sichuan province were stopped by soldiers from marching to Deng's home village and desecrating his ancestors' graves. Soldiers remained camped there to protect the graves.

Residents in the northwestern city of Xian sometimes spit when they see a woman who turned in her younger brother, a student activist on the government's most-wanted list.

These incidents indicate political tensions that erupted into protest marches in April and led to the bloody crackdown in June have not spent themselves. Even as the Communist Party celebrated 40 years in power in October, an eventual reckoning between it and China's 1.1 billion people seemed inevitable.

"People are waiting for Deng to die, just as they waited for the emperors to die," said a Western scholar, speaking on condition of anonymity. The 85-year-old leader, who has appeared several times in public lately, is believed to suffer from cancer.

"When Deng dies, we'll celebrate," said a college senior in Zhengzhou, who asked not to be identified for his own safety.

A college student in Lanzhou, the capital of Gansu province, worries that people will begin to believe the government's claim that counter-revolutionaries were behind the democracy movement, and that they and hoodlums caused more damage with rocks and bottles than soldiers did with tanks and guns.

In Beijing, few people believe the government explanations, even after hearing them for five months. To most people in the capital, the students remain heroes who spoke out against the government.

Two weeks of travel through provincial capitals found the same cynicism and anger in conversations with dozens of students, teachers and urban workers.

Only in the villages do ordinary people say with apparent sincerity that the government was right to order the military crackdown on protesters in Beijing. But they aren't aware of many details or even the government's admission that hundreds died.

"They used tear gas," Zhou Zhenchuan, a factory manager in peaceful village, near Lanzhou, said when asked how the Army ended the protests. Told that soldiers also fired guns, he said in disbelief, "I never heard that."

Although the government stopped announcing arrests of suspected dissidents in July, after more than 2,000 were publicized, Chinese and Western sources in Lanzhou and three other provincial capitals — Zhengzhou, Xian and Chengdu — said a new wave of interrogations and arrests began in September, when colleges reopened. No reliable figures were available.

"They're going through the libraries on campus and taking books off the shelves and locking them up," said a foreign teacher who insisted on not being identified, even by city.

Old files are being reopened, he said, and past writings and comments are being examined for signs of capitalist or Western sympathies.

Some professors who sympathized with the students or offered them advice have been banned from teaching and remain in limbo in their campus housing, not daring to meet with friends for fear of harming them by association.

The student in Lanzhou said that after the poster went up at his university, signed "The China Democratic League — Lanzhou branch," officials brought in handwriting experts. Within days, seven students were arrested.

"We don't know if our dorms are bugged," he said. "One night, a group of students debated among themselves — one group argued for putting down the turmoil, another opposed it. The next day, a teacher said, 'you students should talk less about it.'"

"How did he know?"

Lanzhou clings to the banks of the Yellow River 1,200 kms (750 miles) west of Beijing. For centuries, it was the westernmost outpost of Chinese civilization; beyond was the thinly chartered wilds of Mongolia and Xinjiang.

News from Beijing often arrives days late. By the time the impact of a government policy trickles down, a new policy often has taken its place, a government worker said.

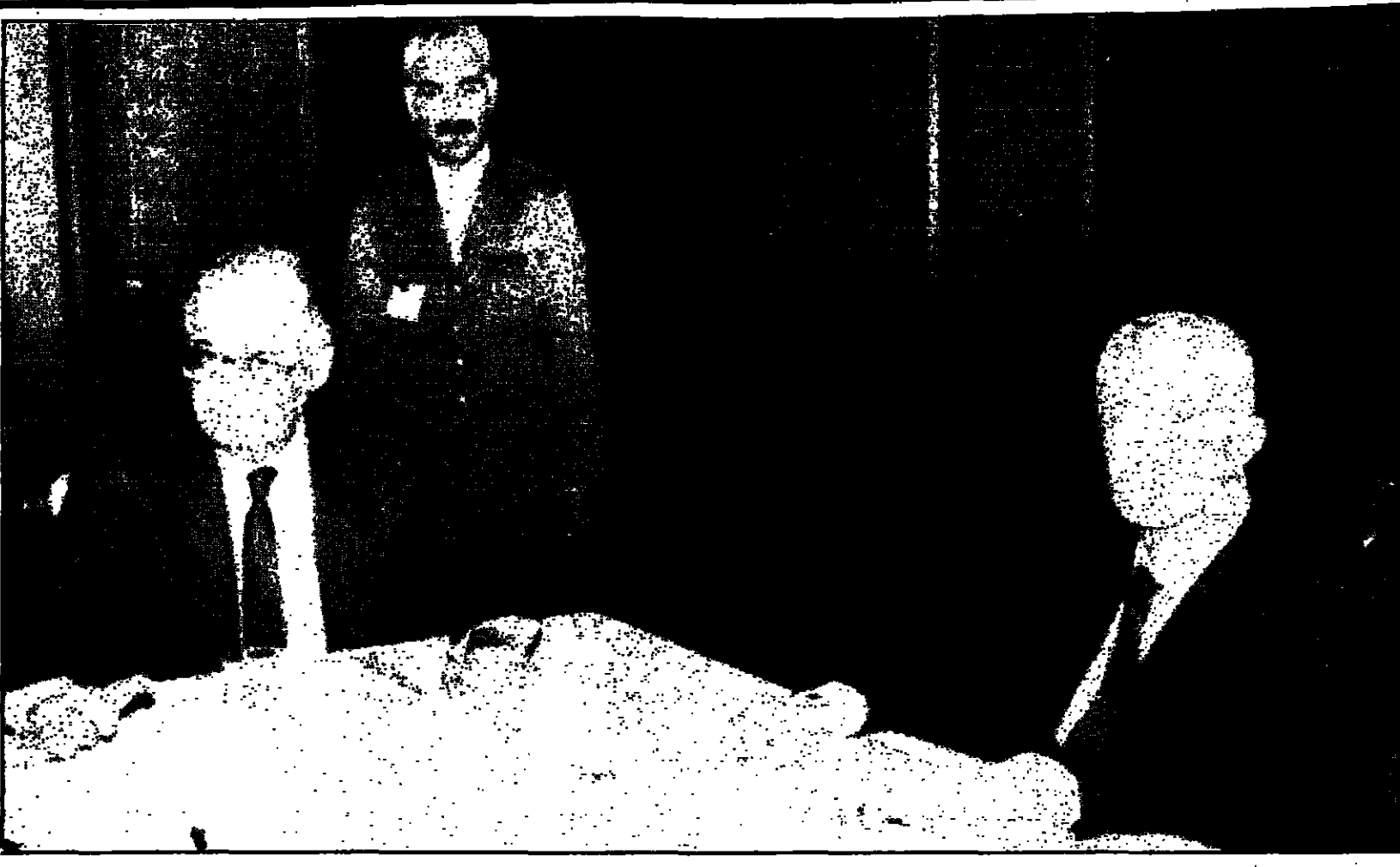
But when Beijing students began a hunger strike in May to press their cause, more than 10,000 Lanzhou students an older intellectuals marched to show support.

When the military moved to crush the protests in Beijing on June 3-4, Lanzhou students flocked to the railway station and tore up the tracks to keep soldiers from going to the capital. They blocked city roads and bridges, too, shutting down the city for nearly a week in hopes that the chaos would topple Premier Li Peng and others who ordered the crackdown.

Gov Jia Zhijie of Gansu province mobilized thousands of police to remove the blockades and round up protesters.

The government says more than 80 cities were affected by protests, but the number seems much larger.

Domestic radio in May reported marches in a dozen cities and towns in the southwestern province of Sichuan alone, including some places so small they could not be found in an atlas. A recent traveler to a dozen semi-rural county towns was told that protests were held in each.



Lebanon's new President Elias Hrawi (right) with new Prime Minister Salim Hoss (left) during the new cabinet's first meeting on Nov 26 in the eastern town Chitoura. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lebanon's cabinet vowed 'to deploy all capabilities' Hirawi plans drive to oust Aoun

BEIRUT, (Reuters): Lebanon's combative new President Elias Hrawi, riding a tide of sympathy after his predecessor's assassination, will put top priority on driving Christian rival Michel Aoun from his palace, political sources said on Sunday.

Conciliation efforts have not been laid to rest along with the body of the late president Rene Muawad but the accent will be on confrontation, they said.

"The removal of Aoun has become the priority and that is why Hrawi was elected," said one Muslim political source.

The new cabinet, at its first meeting on Sunday, delayed until Tuesday a decision on sacking General Aoun as army chief. Parliamentary sources said Hrawi agreed to the delay in response to an appeal from an unknown mediator.

But the cabinet also vowed "to deploy all capabilities" to end what it called the state of partition in Lebanon.

Since Muawad was killed last Wednesday, 5,000 Syrian troops have moved up to the front lines facing the Christian enclave controlled by Aoun, Christian and Muslim security sources said.

Analysts on both sides of the Green Line dividing Beirut believed this was a sabre-rattling exercise. But, after one of the most extraordinary weeks in Lebanon's extraordinary history, few ruled out any possibility.

Muawad, elected by Parliament on Nov 5 to implement an Arab-sponsored peace pact, admitted on the day before his death he had failed so far to form a "national unity" cabinet.

Aoun, insisting he was Lebanon's legal ruler and rejecting Muawad as an illegally-elected Syrian puppet, had apparently managed to bring major Christian political and militia chiefs into line behind him.

The pact was mediated by an Arab League Committee set up six months ago to try to end 14 years of civil war by stopping artillery battles between Aoun's troops and Syrian forces backing Muslim and leftist militias.

"So far we have only accomplished 10 per cent of the peace agreement," League mediator Lakhdar Ibrahim told Reuters. "We have achieved a small but very important step, which is halting the fighting. But we still have a very long way to go."

Two days after Muawad was blown up by a bomb in Muslim west Beirut, Hrawi was elected by deputies meeting in east Lebanon in a luxury hotel guarded by Syrian and Lebanese troops. A 14-man "national reconciliation" cabinet was announced hours later.

But the absence of three key members at Sunday's meeting showed that a credible "unity" cabinet was as far away as ever, political analysts said.

George Saadeh said the politburo of his Falange Party, the largest Christian Party, would decide whether he joined. Michel Sassine, named deputy prime minister, said earlier he would only join if Saadeh did.

There was no explanation for the absence of Nabih Berri, head of the Syrian-backed Shiite Muslim Aml militia.

But both Shiites and Druze Muslims have said the peace pact, switching power from a Christian president to a cabinet led by a Sunni Muslim, gives their sects too little influence.

Muslim political sources said the cabinet saw its priority as ousting Aoun, using all available legal, fiscal, political and diplomatic means.

It succeeded, it would resign and a broader cabinet including the powerful Christian Lebanese Forces militia now loyal to Aoun, would be formed, the sources told Reuters.

This would follow the terms of the peace pact, which Aoun vehemently opposes because it fails to ensure a withdrawal of Syria's 33,000 troops in Lebanon.

Aoun said Friday's election of Hrawi, described as a "comedy" by one of his spokesmen, changed nothing.

The Muslim sources predicted a long confrontation period. They said a "surgical military operation" was a possible last resort but doubted whether international powers would let Syrian forces move into east Beirut.

Superpower relations affect Middle East

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): The thaw in East-West relations that is dramatically changing Eastern Europe could also be transforming long-established patterns of confrontation in the Middle East.

Although Israeli leaders continue to portray the Jewish state as an island in a hostile Arab sea, the retreat of superpower rivalry in the region is likely to remove much of the fuel needed to ignite another conflict.

On the same day that Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said the decline of tension in Europe would not be mirrored in his region, comments by the Soviet ambassador to Syria showed that improved East-West relations are affecting the Middle East.

"I certainly think we are living in a historic week," Mordechai Gur, a Labour Party member of Knesset, told army radio.

"The United States is about to slash a significant amount from its defence expenditures. This is liable also to influence their support for us."

"The Soviet Union announced that it will reduce its aid to Syria. It will not allow Syria to reach strategic parity and will only sell it (weapons) in exchange for direct money."

Israeli experts quickly pointed out that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had quietly advocated such a policy in the past, but Ambassador Alexander Zotov's public statement was clearly deliberate.

In an interview in Damascus with two Western newspapers, Zotov said the Soviet Union would help Syria develop adequate defences against an Israeli attack but would not give military equality.

Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, Israel's military chief of staff, said there had been no reduction in arms supplies to Syria so far but Israel understood the potential implications.

"If there will be a translation of those declarations into actual policy, clearly that will be a contributing factor to stability in the Middle East," Shomron said.

Zotov's comments were a further signal to both Syria and Israel of the Kremlin's move toward the middle ground in advance of any Middle East peace negotiations.

When Gorbachev took power almost five years ago the Soviet Union had worked itself into isolation. Besides Syria, Israel's fiercest enemy, its only unquestioned ally in the Middle East was South Yemen.

Since then the Kremlin has established diplomatic relations with fervently anti-communist countries in the Gulf and resumed normal ties with Egypt.

Despite Syrian unease, it also moved steadily toward restoring full relations with Israel, severed because of the 1967 Middle East war.

Diplomatic relations with Israel are a prerequisite for Soviet participation in regional peace negotiations. Although attention is focussed now on proposals for Israeli-Palestinian talks, the wider Israeli-Arab conflict will also have to be addressed.

"No doubt the Soviets are not going to drop the Syrians," said Maoz Moshe Maoz, a professor at occupied Jerusalem's Hebrew University, "but they want to cautiously manoeuvre them toward negotiations."

Although few expect Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to reverse course immediately, Soviet pressure and a weak economy could encourage him to look to negotiations rather than force in seeking recovery of the Golan Heights, lost to Israel in 1967.

But the same shift in superpower relations that could draw Syria into peace talks may undermine their necessity for the United States.

Washington has been most active in Middle East diplomacy when it felt threatened. With Soviet expansion turning to retreat, Americans may feel little need to press Israel for concessions.

The decline in East-West rivalry will likely translate into less armament to wage a war, but a final solution to the Middle East conflict could prove more elusive.

"The parties here can't work out any solution themselves," Maoz, an expert on Syria, told Reuters. "Whether the two superpowers can impose a solution I don't know."

Rebels become generals in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan, (AP): Amir Said Ahmad, a former rebel who battled Afghan government forces for eight years, sits surrounded by hashish-smoking bodyguards. He doesn't look much like a general in the government's army, his former enemy.

But two years ago, after his stint fighting the communist revolution and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, "commander" Ahmad joined forces with the Kabul government and received a general's rank.

Ideology was not the reason. For the turbaned, black-bearded Ahmad, it was a question of who was going to pay him the most and leave him alone.

"I don't go with anyone forever," Ahmad said in an interview at his expansive guest house in Kabul. "I only go with the one who works for my men. When that stops, I switch sides."

In exchange for his pledge of allegiance to President Najib, Ahmad was made a general and a member of parliament, and given arms, food and hundreds of thousands of dollars a month for him and his 3,000 men. The government also promised that his militia group, which controls parts of Herat province in the west, could continue its business activities there.

A new Mercedes Benz and the Kabul Guest House were thrown in for good measure.

"I don't know how much money I have but I have too much," Ahmad said with a smile clutching an AK-47 assault rifle. A circle of heavily armed men surrounding the general clucked approvingly. The chocolate-like smell of hashish filled the room.

Ahmad is one of dozens of former rebel commanders who have left the US backed rebels, who call themselves mujahedeen, Islamic for "holy warriors," and joined the government after Najib

announced his "national reconciliation" policy. The policy announced two years ago combines elements of a return to the traditional Afghan way of solving problems with the "united front" policy used by communist parties in trouble.

In the traditional relationship, tribes pledged loyalty to a central government while retaining autonomy in their local affairs. The "united front" is used by communist parties that cannot control a country by themselves. They unite with whomever they can, gain control and then go after their old allies.

The policy is an about-face for the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, which came to power in 1978 and attempted to exert central control over the country and institute a communist revolution.

In other areas as well, Najib's "national reconciliation" has halted Afghanistan's communist experiment.

Government monopolies on fuel and sugar transportation were lifted recently and the state has issued a plea to all private traders to help feed the people during the winter. The government now denies it is communist. Kabul's mayor and hard-line Marxist, Abdul Hakim Misaq, recently said traffickers in stolen goods would not be prosecuted as long as they got the pilfered goods to the market.

Diplomats in Kabul, mostly from the Soviet bloc or Non-Aligned countries, said the government's attempt to placate the powerful militias by allowing them to keep their weapons might replace one problem, civil war, with another, lawlessness.

Indeed, the Afghan tribes are no longer armed with flintlock rifles, heavy weapons fill their mountain strongholds.

"I have tanks, armoured personnel carriers, rockets, mortars and bombs," Ahmad said. "If things get difficult, I can get airplanes, fighter jets, you name it. In my territory, I am the boss."

In Herat, Ahmad is called Amir, which means prince or lord. His group owns several villages and the largest cement factory in the province, giving it an effective monopoly on the local construction industry.

Members of the group man checkpoints on the main provincial road and, along with other militia groups, demand payments of food or money from trucks in exchange for safe passage.

In Kabul, an Afghan doctor said she treats dozens of gunshot wounds a month, many of them inflicted by militiamen.

"It's like your wild west," said the American-trained physician, speaking on condition of anonymity. "These men all want to be cowboys."

Ahmad's family has lived in Herat for generations. After the 1978 revolution, the government attempted to break the power of local lords like the Ahmad family and launched a radical policy of land reform.

Many of the lords went to war. Ahmad joined the mujahedeen in their fight to overthrow the government.

The arrival of the Soviet Red Army in Afghanistan in December 1979 further galvanized Ahmad's resolve to oppose the Kabul government. But eight years of fighting hurt his militia band. And Ahmad, who took four wives and had eight children, said he had more important concerns.

"My children became more important than war," he said.

Letters to the editor

Epitome of atheism

SIR: A recent article appearing in the Arab Times says mankind survived throughout the eons due to an improbable accident of evolution, and that, if the whole thing ever had to happen again it would never in a million chances occur. We are also informed that our ancestor was a ribbon-shaped worm-like creature "called Pikaia Gracilens" in other words, our common great grandfather is a tapeworm.

All this is based on a slab of rock called "Burgess Shale" found in Canada. Steven Jay Gould wrote this product of his imagination in a book called "Wonderful Life" and I read that it is now on the American bestseller list. It is amazing how really gullible people can be — imagine that all that we are as human beings, thinking, caring, working, with all of our unduplicatable functions, both internal and external; and all this is around us in the universe, just happened by a series of total incidents! I wonder where God fits into all of this? This whole idea of Gould's is based on total atheism.

It's extraordinary that this book has even been published, based on such flimsy evidence, and as far-fetched imagination, not as a fantasy novel, but as scientific findings. This is a blatant example of the malaise that is occurring throughout the world now, where people are losing all contact with God and religion, and embracing atheism, backed up by these so-called "scientific facts". God and science go hand in hand, they don't contradict each other, as everything that's scientific was originally created by God, whether Muslim, Christian, Jew, or any other monotheistic religion revealed by God should condemn such idiotic meanderings in theory and stick with the facts.

God created mankind with his intelligence intact, and no amount of theorising is ever going to change that. If people think that Salman Rushdie's novel is blasphemous, then this book, going under the guise of 'truth' is the epitome of atheism.

Mia Pozzo, Salford.

Laudable suggestion

SIR: This is in reference to the letter (AT, Nov. 22). The suggestion put forward by P.P. Abdur Rahman (Peringadi) is laudable. It is the first time that we hear about a committee, Barney Committee which had reported that nearly two hundred Muslim mosques are under the occupation of Hindus in Delhi alone. I don't know from where Abdur Rahman got the figure that nearly nine thousand mosques are lost to Indian Muslims from Delhi to Pakistan border.

Anyhow, as Abdur Rahman (Peringadi) suggested a team of eminent historians of different communities, scholars, religious and political leaders should be set up to inquire these things. Would the government of India consider this? Actually the reports of various commissions didn't see the light and hence the enquiry commissions are scarce.

G.T. Xavier, Salford.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"The spontaneous welcome was amazing. This was an amazing experience." — White South African upon getting a rousing welcome when they marched into a black township.

"How a party proceeds with the development of society is not put forth through laws or declarations but can only result from work, performance and its attitude." — East German leader Egon Krenz saying he favours abolishing the Communist Party's constitutional claim to total power.

"I couldn't get interested in the third game. If I had managed to win the second things might have been different. But I am very bored at the moment and will take a two-month rest after playing the Dutch Open next week." — Jambor Khan after a defeat by Jahangir Khan.

"I know it's very tough when you fall two games behind but that is the type of pressure you have to learn to take. As if he is bored after just three years on the circuit what will he be like in year 10 to come?" — Jahangir Khan sounding impressed by Jansher's explanation.

"I would like to assure the Congress, the people and the nation that in the future I will continue to be a soldier fighting for socialism and Romania." — Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu indicating he'll stick to power.

"I'm looking at the 1991 World Championships and 1992 Olympics. After that, we will see. Maybe I will stop. After all, I'm 30 now." — Moroccan Said Aouita on when he'll call it quits.

"How much did this guy get paid? Tell him I'll double his money." — American Jay Berger to Chilean umpire Max Munoz of the linesman in his tennis match against Jaime Yzaga of Peru.

"I am sorry for my behaviour accusing the linesman. But when you are out there on the heat fighting for money, prestige and pride, you sometimes get nervous, especially after a bad call on crucial points." — Bergeva apologising to linesman after winning the match.

"I appeal to you... to help us to step onto the right path of development. We want to learn from you how to develop a country, how to move it from a system that failed to one that works." — Lech Walesa to officials of the Polish American Congress.

"Historically, after the abysses of the Second World War... the most serious turbulence stemmed from another totalitarian and schematic ideology that became a system — Marxism-Leninism — that is today clearly exhausted even by admission of its own followers." — The editorial in the Vatican newspaper on communism.

"He's enjoying the experience in Europe. He's open-minded, with a great deal of interests. He's the type of man who is not just satisfied with a life of basketball but he develops experience in life." — Il Massimo coach of player Danny Ferry.

"Our season has been kind of a roller coaster. We won a lot of pre-season games but we hit a dry spell when the regular season came. We still need to improve and I'm confident expectation. I can understand the people that's not an unfair 'We're trying to turn it around.' — American Danny Ferry on his team's standard in the Italian basketball league.

"Washington has apparently come to the conclusion that perestroika is a deep and irreversible process that opens up possibilities for a safer and more stable climate in Europe and the world, and that that is in US interests." — Pravda commentator Gennady Yavlitsky.

السعودية والاحل

MIDEAST

SLA kills Muslim prisoners in riot

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 27. (Agencies): Pro-Israeli militia guards at a prison in southern Lebanon fired tear-gas killing two Shiite Muslim prisoners during a riot by hundreds of inmates, Israel Radio said today.

The unrest tonight at Al Khiam prison just north of the village of Marjayoun followed reports from Lebanon that an unknown Palestinian group had offered to exchange the body of an Israeli soldier for the freeing of Arab prisoners.

One of the sources, who in keeping with army regulations, spoke on condition of anonymity, said prisoners called on the

leaders of Hezbollah and Amal, both Lebanese Shiite militias, to secure their release as part of a swap.

Guards from the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army militia fatally shot two prisoners during the rioting, another source said.

Israel Radio estimated the number of detainees at Al Khiam, a former Lebanese Army barracks, at 400, many of them Shiites. The prisoners include both criminal and commando suspects.

The Israeli Army has declined comment on the swap offer published on Saturday in the Beirut daily *Al Nahar* by a group

calling itself the organisation for freeing Palestinian prisoners.

Published with the statement was a photograph of the identity paper of soldier Ilan Saadon, who disappeared last May while hitchhiking home from his base in southern Israel, near the occupied Gaza Strip.

The army issued a statement on Nov 7 saying officials believed Saadon had been killed by members of the Palestinian Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas, although his body has not been found.

The same day the army announced the capture of several Hamas members sus-

pected of involvement in the attack, but said the two men believed to have carried out the actual slaying had escaped from Israeli-occupied territory.

The Israeli daily *Haaretz* quoted a senior unnamed military source as saying Saadon's identity papers may have reached Beirut through the slaying suspects, whom the paper identified as Mahmud Nasser and Mahmud Mahbub.

Members of Hamas also were blamed for the kidnapping and slaying of trooper Avi Sassportas, who disappeared last February. Sassportas' body was later found near the Gaza Strip.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Iran manoeuvre

NICOSIA, Nov 27. (Reuters): About 600,000 paramilitary troops set up road blocks, searched cars and took up positions at government buildings today in anti-commando exercises held in Iranian cities, Tehran Radio reported.

It said the manoeuvres aimed to display "power and readiness of the Basij (mobilisation) forces against threats of world arrogance."

Libyan team

TUNIS, Nov 27. (Reuters): A high-level Libyan delegation led by Major Abdel-Salam Jalloud arrived in Tunis today for two days of talks on political and economic co-ordination between Libya and Tunisia.

Prime Minister Hamed Karoui heads the Tunisian side in the meetings of a high commission which was set up when relations dramatically improved after Tunisian President Zine Al-Abidine Ben Ali came to power two years ago.

Release of doves

LONDON, Nov 27. (AP): Friends of British journalist John McCarthy today marked his 33rd birthday, his fourth as a hostage in Lebanon, by appealing for greater government efforts for his release.

Eight white doves were released outside the foreign office, two by McCarthy's girlfriend Jill Morrell, who said:

"The doves are symbolic of peace. We are releasing them as a gesture of freedom in the hope of galvanising the foreign office to do more."

New threat

BONN, Nov 27. (UPI): An obscure Islamic group threatened today to "strike with full force" against West German publishers and sellers of "the Satanic Verses," saying they would be "executed" if the book is not withdrawn.

The warning by the so-called organisation of the Defenders of Islam was delivered to United Press International six weeks after the first German editions of Salman Rushdie's controversial book appeared in book stores.

German subs

LONDON, Nov 27. (Kuna): West Germany has approved the sale of two diesel-powered submarines to Israel worth \$600 million, despite the country's long-standing ban on selling weapons to areas of conflict, Israeli defence officials told a British newspaper today.

The independent newspaper quoted these officials as saying they were informed of the Bonn government's decision last week, only weeks after the application was made.

Ethiopian talks

ATLANTA, Nov 27. (AP): Former President Carter said the Ethiopian government and Eritrean rebels invited former Tanzanian President Julius K. Nyerere to help mediate talks to end 28 years of civil war.

The accord marks the end of preliminary negotiations between the two sides that should lead to substantive talks to stop the war, Carter told the Atlanta constitution in an interview published.

Rebel ambush

NAIROBI, Nov 27. (Reuters): Rebels in northern Somalia said today they killed 20 government soldiers when they ambushed an army lorry on Thursday.

The clandestine radio of the rebel Somali National Movement said the ambush took place on the main road from Hargeisa, the main town in northern Somalia, to Boro, a town near the Ethiopian border in the extreme northwest of the country.

Chadli's reforms

ALGER, Nov 27. (Reuters): Hardliners from Algeria's ruling party appear set to challenge reforms by President Chadli Benjedid on the eve of a crucial Congress which could decide the party's future.

The National Liberation Front (FLN), which had kept an iron grip on power since Algeria's independence from France in 1962, now faces widespread public unrest and pressure for change.

OAU panel

DAKAR, Nov 27. (Reuters): African ministers charged with resolving a long-running dispute between Senegal and Mauritania met in Dakar today and elected Tog as their chairman.

Tog's Foreign Minister Yavi Adodo replaced Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Boutros Ghali who stayed away because of illness, delegates from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU)'s special committee said.

Palestinian held

STOCKHOLM, Nov 27. (Reuters): British police are expected to question a Palestinian held in Stockholm about evidence linking him to the 1988 bombing of a Pan American jet over the Scottish town of Lockerbie, his lawyer said today.

"I am expecting the Lockerbie investigators to come here and interrogate my client sometime this week," defence lawyer Sven-Erik Sjogren said.

Hussein vows to limit martial law

King's ally elected as speaker

AMMAN, Nov 27. (Agencies): King Hussein told the opening session of Parliament today that he would work to limit martial law and legalise political parties, forging ahead with democratic changes that produced the first general elections in 22 years.

Hussein said the government will strengthen civilian courts to "reduce gradually the need for martial and special courts," which have operated since the 1967 war with neighbouring Israel.

He also said a royal commission will draft a national charter of principles under which political parties, banned since 1957, could re-emerge.

Hussein wore a black ceremonial military uniform as he read the speech from the throne, the constitutional opening for all new legislative sessions.

State-run Jordan television carried the entire speech live, subtitled in English. All banks, schools and government offices in the capital were closed in honour of Parliament opening.

The new 80-man chamber of deputies was chosen last month in Jordan's first general election since 1967—the same year Hussein imposed martial law in response to the war in which Israel captured the West Bank from Jordan.

The chamber met jointly with the royally appointed 40-member Senate to hear the speech.

The government has used military courts for cases ranging from price gouging by vegetable vendors to probes of major banking scandals and criminal matters such as murder.

Most candidates in last month's election demanded the end of martial law, which also forbids large public meetings and gives the government broad powers to restrict freedoms of speech and the press.

Hussein said the assembly "represents a new phase of our life" and said the free atmosphere of the elections had shocked the country's critics.

The election, one of the freest ever held in the Arab world, gave at least 34 seats to Islamic activists, despite Hussein's calls for voters to avoid mixing religion with politics.

The Islamists split on the first vote of the new session, however, as the chamber elected former Interior Minister Suleiman Arar to be Speaker instead of a candidate backed by the conservative Muslim Brotherhood.

Arar, an ally of the King, received 44 votes on the second ballot against 36 for Brotherhood-backed Yousef Mubaydeen.

Some of Arar's votes came from liberal Islamic activists outside the Brotherhood who had supported their own candidate, Laith Shubailat. He dropped out after the first ballot.

Hussein said he would form a royal commission to draft a national charter that "will define the basic central concepts of nationalism and patriotism that will guide the nation and direct it."

"The emergence and activity of political organisations will be based on these concepts and definitions," he added.

In the speech, the King stressed his support for the PLO's efforts to reach peace with Israel. He last year renounced claim to the West Bank in favour of the

US to block move on PLO

KUWAIT, Nov 27. (Agencies): The United States and Israel are planning to take joint action to block an Arab proposal at the United Nations to give the Palestine Liberation Organisation de facto recognition as a state, radio Israel reported today.

The radio, monitored here, said that the American Ambassador to the United Nations Thomas Pickering discussed this matter with his Israeli counterpart.

The radio added, that the US government is exerting all efforts to defeat the move and warned that it will cut off its aid to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) if it recognised the State of Palestine.

The United States has strongly opposed recognition of the Palestine state in UN organisations, and the 1991 US foreign aid bill recently enacted into law would cut off aid to any agency that changes or enhances the PLO status at the UN.

The Arab proposal is expected to be introduced in the UN this week.

US officials said yesterday the US government was making an all-out effort to try and defeat the move. The officials would not identify the sponsors of the resolution beyond saying they were Arab states.

"One official told Reuters the expected resolution would propose to change the nameplate of the PLO observer delegation in the United Nations from Palestine to State of Palestine."

"It would seem to me that when you change the nameplate to State of Palestine that is enhancement" of the PLO status at the UN, the official said.

He said that as a result the nameplate change "could be a rather significant step" and lead to a halt in the payment of US dues to the United Nations.

On the average the United States is assessed about 25 per cent of the UN budget.

Meanwhile, Israel's Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon proposed yesterday that Israel annex part of the occupied territories in conjunction with proposed elections for Palestinians living there.

Sharon, a senior member of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud Party, blasted his government's current plan to hold Palestinian elections for representatives to negotiate an interim arrangement in the occupied territories.

He said Israel should annex areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip agreed on by the Labour and Likud parties which share power in a coalition government.

"I suggested that on those areas, the chain of Jewish settlements, we have to impose Israeli law together with elections in Judea, Samaria (Biblical names of West Bank and Gaza)," Sharon said in a radio interview.

"The elections in the way they are presented by us will lead to a Palestinian state," Sharon said. "This approach in my opinion is mistaken."

Egypt's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid was quoted today as saying that Israel would be serving its interests and protecting its future if it accepted peace with Palestinians.

He also criticised Israeli leaders for not showing flexibility in negotiations with Palestinians through the government of Egypt.



King Hussein delivers a speech from the throne, at the opening session of parliament. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bomb blasts in Haifa shopping centre

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 27. (AP): A homemade pipe bomb rigged outside a bank in an Israeli shopping centre exploded while police tried to dismantle it. Two parked automobiles were damaged by flying fragments, but there were no injuries, police said.

The blast came as Israel radio reported that military officials were bracing for an escalation in violence using firearms in advance of a second year anniversary a Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Several Arab suspects were detained immediately after the attempted terrorist attack in the northern port city of Haifa, a city police official said and declined to elaborate.

Israel radio described the charge as a large homemade bomb inside a pipe that was set in a paper bag by a concrete staircase at Horev shopping centre atop Haifa's Biblical Mt Carmel.

In the uprising, which began on Dec 8, 1987, most Palestinians have stayed away from firearms using mostly stones and firebombs to attack the Israelis.

But the trend has changed recently. Two soldiers were

killed earlier this month in a shooting ambush outside Gaza city. The radio said the army expected more attempts at shooting attacks.

Yesterday groups of Palestinian activists armed with assault rifles launched organised patrols in the West Bank city of Nablus, searching for Arabs suspected of collaborating with Israeli authorities, Arab reports said.

The Palestinian show of force came despite large numbers of reported arrests conducted by soldiers over the last four months in the disputed lands.

In sweeps using helicopters and house-to-house searches, troops have detained more than 2,000 Palestinian activists since August, the radio said. More than 100 of these are reportedly considered ringleaders of uprising violence.

The military command declined comment on recent arrests and warnings, but released new figures showing a total of 9,322 Palestinian detainees were now in Israeli custody.

Balloon heart surgery in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Nov 27. (Kuna): The first balloon heart surgery was successfully performed in Iraq for Reuters news agency's correspondent here, it was announced today.

The 30-minute operation, involving insertion of a balloon pushed by a hard wire through clogged parts of the arteries and then inflated to push out coagulated blood, was supervised by Dr Irfan Al Hani at the Ibn Al Bitar hospital.

The patient, Subhi Haddad, is reported in very good condition and his doctor says he can leave the hospital within a week.

Balloon heart operations are rapidly replacing bypass heart surgeries, the old method of treating clogged vessels in the body by omitting those parts of the vessels and providing instead healthy vessel pieces from other parts of the body usually the leg.

That surgery takes hours and the patient has to stay weeks in the hospital for the recovery period.

Israeli minister on first visit to Soviet Union in 22 years

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 27. (Reuters): Israel's minister of agriculture left for Poland today on a visit during which he will discuss restoring relations.

The Soviet visit starting today marks another step toward full relations, which Moscow cut because of the 1967 Middle East war.

The two countries have exchanged consular delegations, but even the visa for Katz-Oz had to be issued in Vienna.

"We were so cautious this time since we had a problem three months ago," Yaniv told Reuters. He said the trip was sup-

posed to have been kept secret until the minister arrived in Moscow.

Katz-Oz left Israel last night after clearing the visit with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, Yaniv said. The Soviet visa was granted only at the end of last week.

The official meetings end on Friday, Yaniv said, but the minister was likely to stay to visit the synagogue in Moscow yesterday.

Yaniv said the minister, officially invited by the Soviet Academy of Sciences, would be discussing exports of fresh Israeli

agricultural produce through a joint venture.

A firm owned by the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture, Agriidem, has teamed up with the Soviet Academy of Sciences to form a trade company called Agromir, he said.

Yaniv said the produce would have to be flown to the Soviet Union. Resumption of direct Israeli-Soviet flights, stopped at the same time as diplomatic relations, is expected by early next year.

The Soviet Union has moved cautiously but methodically toward resuming full diplomatic relations.

He added however that Washington would still need Israel to combat threats to regional stability like fundamentalism.



Two heavily armed policemen guard the palace where Lebanese cabinet chaired by Salim Hoss and new President Elias Hrawi met for the first session in the town of Chatura. (Reuters wirephoto)

Peres arrives in Warsaw

WARSAW, Nov 27. (Reuters): Polish-born Israeli Vice-Premier Shimon Peres arrived in Poland today for a four-day official visit to open a new chapter in relations severed over the 1967 Middle East war.

The radio, monitored here, said that the American Ambassador to the United Nations Thomas Pickering discussed this matter with his Israeli counterpart.

The radio added, that the US government is exerting all efforts to defeat the move and warned that it will cut off its aid to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) if it recognised the State of Palestine.

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He also criticised Israeli leaders for not showing flexibility in negotiations with Palestinians through the government of Egypt.

He added however that Washington would still need Israel to combat threats to regional stability like fundamentalism.

Mujahedeen free 2 Soviet soldiers

PESHAWAR, Nov 27. (AP): Two Soviet soldiers held captive for more than two years by Afghan anti-communist rebels were released to their mothers today in an emotional ceremony in the Pakistani frontier city of Peshawar.

Soviet Ambassador Victor Yakunin announced that a reciprocal release of 33 prisoners—most Afghan rebel fighters but also Pakistanis and Arabs who fought with the rebels—would take place soon in the Afghan capital of Kabul.

Army privates Andrei Lopukh and Valery Prokapechuk, both clad in white, hugged and wept with their mothers as they were reunited at the headquarters of the Pakistan-based rebel alliance.

"I'm very happy that I just saw my son and I know that he's coming home," said a tearful Valentina Prokapechuk.

Dozens of rebel fighters toting Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifles stood guard in their grey dress uniforms, while Pakistan police formed a security ring around the fortress-like rebel headquarters.

Yakunin described the prisoner release as a "high act of humanitarianism."

Yakunin, said Gailani, acting president of the rebels' self-proclaimed government and representatives of the Pakistan Foreign Ministry and the International Committee of the Red Cross attended the outdoor ceremony under a sunny sky.

Before the rebels, who call themselves Mujahedeen or Islamic holy warriors, released the 20-year-old prisoners they lectured the mothers, who were part of a seven-member private delegation from the Soviet Union.

"I understand that not only these women are weeping today, there are probably many more weeping in the Soviet Union," said Farooq Azam, an official of the Mujahedeen government.

Gailani said the prisoner release was "ample proof of our good intentions."

"Tough the war is not yet over we are releasing two more Soviet prisoners to show our humane motives... in spite of the fact that thousands of our people are held by the Kabul regime and the Soviet Union as prisoners."

"To the extent the cold war really is over, there is a feeling that we no longer have to be combating and containing the spread of Soviet influence and that means we need those partners to help in this effort less than we did before," Indyk said.

Indyk said that with the decline of the Soviet threat, the Middle East was no longer a top US priority and warned Washington would move on to other issues if Israel did not breathe life into its stalemated peace plan.

"Israel will be needed less as an outpost of democracy combating the Soviet threat in this part of the world," he told a symposium at Tel Aviv University yesterday.

He added however that Washington would still need Israel to combat threats to regional stability like fundamentalism.

Rockets kill 18 in Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Nov 27. (Reuters): A rebel rocket attack killed at least 18 people in the Afghan capital Kabul yesterday, the official Bakhtar news agency said today.

Rockets also injured dozens of people and caused "tremendous material losses" in residential areas, a Bakhtar report monitored in Islamabad said.

The report blamed the attack on "Pakistan-backed extremists," a reference to Mujahedeen fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government of President Najibullah.

He added however that Washington would still need Israel to combat threats to regional stability like fundamentalism.

EVENTS

Travelling Germans find trip is not a bed of roses

Kuwait the cleanest country

By Manal Elsheikh
Arab Times staff

FOUR weeks ago two German friends left their cosy homes and sad families to travel around Southern Asia on motorbike. They went to Austria, Italy, Turkey and Iraq and arrived in Kuwait last Thursday.

Of the countries they have so far visited, the Germans found Kuwait to be the cleanest, with the most friendly people and the best health facilities.

The wanderers were friends since schooldays and have frequently cruised as partners around Europe.

This trip, however, is the first of its kind. They had never travelled so far away from home, across vast stretches of strange lands, cultures and traditions.

Jürgen Motler and Joachim Wentsch, both in their mid-twenties, told the Arab Times that they left Germany in hope to psychologically find themselves and also for the sake of adventure.

Wentsch stated that personal and professional difficulties urged him to think about the extended trip seriously.

After Kuwait, they will go to Pakistan, India, Nepal, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and finally to their destination, Australia.

All of the countries are in the Southern Hemisphere ensuring minimum difficulty on the bikes

due to wet slippery grounds created by snow, ice and heavy rainfalls. They intend to spend quite a lot of time in Nepal, India and Malaysia, because not only are these countries rich in history, they are materialistically cheap.

On arrival in Australia, they will both look for jobs in order to get enough money to travel back home again. They do not have the faintest idea how long this will take, but they think that it will take a minimum of six months. Motler is a professional cook and Wentsch a carpenter.

They have already been in Kuwait for five days and will be staying here until they can get transport to Pakistan. This is their most serious obstacle so far.

Motler and Wentsch hoped to go to Pakistan from Kuwait by boat. However, due to lack of information in Germany about Kuwait, they were unable to discover that Kuwait does not offer such shipping services.

They then planned to go via land, but that again turned out to be useless as it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to get a visa into Saudi Arabia.

Their one and only choice is by plane. This will tax their budget severely.

In fact, this disappointing situation has deprived them of any real relaxing in Kuwait. They

are constantly going to the German embassy and anywhere else possible, for help. They spent Friday seeing to their motorbikes' needs, complete check-ups and, in Motler's case, a change of wheels.

The two colleagues are currently staying at a youth hostel in Salmiyah, which provides free accommodation for one week.

They hope they will not have to stay in Kuwait for longer than the week due to the high cost of living.

Although they are still at the beginning of their trip, Motler and Wentsch have discovered the importance of security and caring which they previously took for granted at their hometowns in southern West Germany.

They certainly do not advise anybody to follow their footsteps because they like adventure and discovering how people of different cultures live, they feel that such travelling is very tiring, hard and insecure. Furthermore, travelling by land means thorough check-ups at each frontier which is very uncomfortable when carrying the bare essentials for survival.



(Left to right) Jürgen Motler and Joachim Wentsch.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.30 The opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Kher, news and variety
10.00 Around the World: cartoon serial
10.15 Magazine D'actualite (repetition)
10.30 Bait Min Waraq: Arabic serial (part 2)
11.30 Sabah Al Kher, news and variety
11.40 Talaat: Bedouin serial, starring Yousif Al Jamal, Jamal Turki, Husain Bu Hamad and Sameera Khouri
12.30 News summary
12.35 Sabah Al Kher news
12.37 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING

4.00 The opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
4.45 Cartoon serial (part 4)
5.15 You and Your Health: local programme, prepared by Dr. Salem Mohammed and presented by Dr. Rashed Al Owais
5.35 We are Your Friends: local programme
6.00 Al Islam Hadhara: religious serial (part

20)
7.15 Sports Stars: sport programme, prepared and presented by Metlaq Nassar
7.55 Made in Kuwait: Information programme, prepared and presented by Dr. Ali Al Damkhi
8.30 Good Evening and local news
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Sabar: Arabic Serial (part 4)
10.35 Variety late night show: variety programme with show guest Suhair Al Babil, presented by Dawlat Shawqi
11.45 News Summary
11.50 The World Today via Satellite
12.15 Holy Quran and closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 Piplodes. A cartoon series for children
6.30 The Electronic Office "Wiring the Organ." Computer in hospitals and the other institutes and installations.
7.00 Watch all Night: A maid servant disappears after confessing that she has seen her father before being kidnapped.

7.30 Fishing the West "San Diego Offshore." Methods of fishing in the waters to the west of San Diego
8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law
8.45 The Twilight Zone "Our Selenia is dying." A doctor notices that the health of an old dying woman is getting better while the health of her nurse is deteriorating!
9.30 The Great Space Race. A study on the Universe... its origin, its development... the formation of stars and galaxies.
10.00 A Different World. "Ron" and "Dwain" attempt to join a new club where they have to pass a very difficult test and action.
10.30 Murphy's Law. "When You Are Over The Hill." An employee accused of falsification of insurance documents is murdered. Her colleague and competitor is accused of killing her.
11.30 News in Brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

ARTS

Islamic Art

A SIX week — 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 — 12.00 noon. October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week — eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 — 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Athar during museum hours 8.30 am — 12.30 pm.

Watercolour Painting

LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Mills. New 8 week course in Drawing & Painting for adults. For details tel: 5618847.

Islamic painting in India

ROBERT Skelton, a former keeper of the India Department at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London will give a public lecture on Islamic Painting in India.

The lecture will be held on Wednesday, 29th November, 1989 at 6.00 pm at the Kuwait National Museum Lecture Theatre. The lecture, which is in English, is open to all.

Seminar

THERE will be a seminar at

the DAA on "Arabic & European Art in the Light of Zodiacal Symbolism" December 10, 1989 — January 10, 1990. Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 — 12.30 am. Anyone wishing to register for this seminar may do so at the DAA during museum hours.

SOCIAL

Kuwait Players

Kuwait Players are holding a fun play reading on Tuesday Nov 28. Come along at 8.00 pm and try your hand at reading a script. No experience necessary. Tel. 5615357.

X'mas tree

DEC 15: Flying Arrows Sporting Centre once again invites their members and guests to their annual X'mas tree function, to be held at the Carlton Tower Hotel from 11.30am onwards. Assumptious buffet, gifts galore, exciting games and live music by the "Neighbuzz" awaits one and all. Added attraction, Leo the Magician is to perform at 12.00pm sharp.

PPC's democracy week

The Pakistan People's Club will celebrate the first anniversary of democracy by Benazir Bhutto's Prime Minister elected government on Dec 2, 1988. Announcing this Riaz Ahmed Mahesar said that meetings and outdoor musical programme will be arranged for men and women

wings of the club.

All members are requested to contact Mr Rafiq Ahmed Mirza. For children sports events are arranged by PPC sports committee.

People's Trust Club

DEC 29: People's Trust Club welcomes you to a day of your life at Ramada Al Salam (Marriott) Hotel, New Ballroom from 10.30 am onwards. Nimble feet, hungry palates, perfect blend of music and style. A feast of Stepping Stones, Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers. There will be novel prizes and surprises galore. Contact Columbus on 4348218.

Ahmadi Music Society

The Ahmadi Music Society proudly presents its 21st Carol Concert at 8 pm on Monday and Tuesday Dec 11 and 12, 1989. A special children's carol concert will be held at 5.30 pm on Saturday Dec 9, 1989. Venue Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi. For ticket reservations ring 3983964.

Konkani Drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association are pleased to announce Menino De Bandar's "Sousarant Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaites) on the 16th of February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, C. D'Silva, Betty Naz, Junior Rod, Rosario Dias. Plans open in early January.

Bhartiya Kala Sangam

A family get-together for members of Bhartiya Kala Sangam will be held at the Indian Embassy premises on Thursday, Dec 7, 1989 at 7.30 pm. There will be an entertainment programme including 'fancy dress competition' for children, lucky draw, and sumptuous buffet for members. Lots of prizes and surprises await for one and all. For details please contact tel: 5628171, 2551305.

Xmas celebrations

DEC 15: United Goan's Centre will have their annual X'mas celebrations at the Al Salam Hotel on Friday December 15th '89 from 10 am onwards (Al Deira). Special package of fun, games awaits the young as well as the old. A variety of entertainment for the children. Call on us for early booking and avoid disappointment. Contact Tony: 2612024/ Moses: 224293.

Yuletide Fayre

Do not miss the Yuletide Fayre being organised by St Paul's Church, Ahmadi from 2 pm to 5 pm on the afternoon of Friday, Dec 1 at the British embassy compound. There will be stalls for Christmas gifts, handicrafts and books as well as for cakes and preserves. There will be entertainment, including Santa Claus, for the children.

Draw for the British Airways ticket to UK or India will also take place. Refreshments will be available.

Shard Mela

AFTER successfully organising Deep-Dewali Satskara is now going to organise Shard Mela at Indian Arts Circle, Funaites on 1st December 1989, at 10.00 am. There will be food stalls of delicious cuisines along with fun and games stalls for children. The big attraction will be two Grand Rattle Draws with a Game of Bingo. For entry passes and further information contact, Brij Vallabh - 2510146, or V.K. Agarwal - 5728621.

Kuwait Cultural Centre

THE Kuwait Cultural Centre is opening a French Language course to be held on Saturdays and Mondays. For further detail please contact 5624393.

Arzilya Restaurant Singing Contest

TO all of you who love singing!!!

DEC 1: Grand Final of the Autumn Sing-Along Contest at 6.30 pm.

DEC 3: Every Friday and Sunday 6.30 and 7.30 respectively, there will be the Christmas Carols Sing-Along Contest. Its grand final will be on Friday December 22, with surprise gifts. Rush register your name and song title on 2402540 or 2428284.

IAC Children's Competition

THE dates of finals of the Children's Competition will take place at IAC Funaites on 13th, 14th, 15th, 27th and 28th December '89 and 18th January '90 respectively. For more details contact Indian Schools, British Council.

STORY time: Thursday, 30 Nov. 10.30 am. Come and enjoy the magic of books with a professional story teller. Children of all nationalities of ages 3 - 7 are invited. Please book seats by calling 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

Radha and Raja

INDIA'S finest Kuchipudi Dancers Dr Radha and Dr Raja Reddi are going to present their dance performance on 7th and 8th of December at Indian Arts Circle Auditorium. For details please contact 3904817.

X'mas tree '89

CHRISTMAS is for children, and what better way than to celebrate it with the New Goans Overseas Association at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel (the new Al-Mirage Ballroom) on the 15th of December 1989. Highlights include 'carol singing competition' (4 local schools participating) games for children, novelty dance and music by the Stepping Stones. Santa Claus will be distributing gifts to all the kids. For reservations contact Anthony on tel: 5621968 (after 6.00 pm) or Julio.

Canadian Women's League

DEC 2: An invitation is extended to all Canadian women to attend this month's meeting to be held Saturday, December 2 from 4 to 6 pm in Jabriya. For more information please call 5315655 or 2563025.

Hobby centre

New Courses in Jewellery making and design for adults. For children there is Pottery starting next month for 6 weeks. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

Steps Ballet School

DEC 9: At the Kuwait English School at 6pm to 7.30pm, the Steps Ballet School will stage a display showing the Royal Academy of Dance's graded syllabus work, performed by the students. If you are interested at watching this display with your daughter, please ring 5386481 9-12 noon only and request seats. Seats are limited to guests, and early booking is advisable. There is no charge but guests must be booked in advance. Registration for January 1990 is now ongoing for girls aged 4-15 years.

Carnival Night

The long waited Carnival Night will be held for the first time in Kuwait with popular bands "Top Ranks" and "Perfect Strangers" vibrating up the Carnival Spirit to bring out their best music ever. So all you folks look ahead for more details through this column for the precise date in the month of February, 1990.

Children's competition at IAC

THE result of the qualifying round of the children's competition held in Indian Arts Circle were already announced on 17-11-1989. The results are displayed in all schools and Indian Arts Circle. The finals will take place on 30-11-89, 15-12-89, 27-12-89, 28-12-89 at Indian Arts Circle. For more information please contact on telephone nos. 3904817 or 5622559.

Exhibition

AN exhibition of superb replica of trees and plants which uniquely couple lifelike fabric foliage with natural trunks and branches. Select for more than 20 different varieties of plants and trees for the size space. On display at the lower lobby of the Kuwait International Hotel. Details at : 2407029.

Jazz Night

NOV 29: In response to overwhelming demand, once again Phil Thomas and the "High Spirits" will be extending their "Jazzical" repertoire for your enjoyment. From 8pm to 12 midnight. Phone: 5640981.

Fancy Dress Competition

THE joint annual family get together of incredible S.C. and Young Men Cultural Association on Dec 8th, starting at 9.30 am sharp has been shifted from the earlier venue to the Kuwait Regency Palace for the convenience of all members. Live music will be provided by Top Ranks, free gifts from Santa and also a fancy dress competition starting at 10.30 am sharp. Lots of prizes and surprises too! Members may collect their passes from the Managing Committee or contact Joe on 3981790 or Satu 3921712.

Sinbad the Sailor

KUWAIT Little Theatre, Ahmadi, proudly present their traditional pantomime extravaganza — Sinbad the Sailor. Tickets are now on sale at reasonable prices for the following performances: Gala Night 5th Dec at 7 pm, Evening performances on 6th and 13th Dec at 7 pm. Matinee performances on 7th, 8th, 14th and 15th Dec at 2 and 5 pm. Ring 3919759 NOW to avoid disappointment.

Kalpak's Symposium

THE Kalpak (Kerala Arts & Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait) is organising a symposium on 'The Impact of Literature on the Socio Cultural Developments' which will be held on 8, 12, 29 at 4 pm in the Indian embassy hall.

We are pleased to invite the Malayali society in Kuwait for their active participation.

Kalpak scholarships declared for the two young talented artists will also be awarded on this occasion by Varghese G, first secretary of Embassy of India.

Canadian Women's League

DEC 2: An invitation is extended to all Canadian women to attend this month's meeting to be held Saturday, December 2 from 4 to 6 pm in Jabriya. For more information please call 2511451 or 5315655.

Ladies International League

SECOND GENERAL MEETING: Our programme will be a winter party and mini bazaar, in Ballroom A at the Sheraton Hotel 7pm - 10pm on Tuesday 5th December '89. There will be a small charge at the door. All ladies are welcome. Please no children. Raffle, door prizes as well as lots of other prizes too. For further details please call Ann 5316905 or Dianne 5335598.

Daniella Children's Party

ALL Danes in Kuwait are invited for the annual children's party "Juletrae" to be held at the Gazelle Club on Friday December 15 at 3 pm. Tickets to be purchased from Inge on 3727688 ext 207 or Winnie on 5733382 before December 10.

Filipino Choral Group

DEC 16: The spirit of Christmas is just around the corner and the Filipino Choral Group in its traditional bid to bring cheers, love and goodwill to all Christians in Kuwait will

present a 30-minute repertoire of English and Filipino Christmas carols on December 16, 5 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral.

This prelude to the first day of Misa de Gallo is organised by Ed Ossa and to be conducted by Hilda Navarro-both working as medical technologists in Farwaniya Hospital.

December Delights

DEC 8: Expatriates Club announces its Yuletide gala-social for children and adults at the SAS 'Tent' Hotel from 0930 hours onwards. Gifts for all children, fancy dress, hamper prizes, lunch buffet, gifts, prizes and surprises from the sponsors and the club. Book early for table reservations: Wilson 3918938, Val 5614306 (after 4 pm) and Tony 5655056 (after 5 pm). Music by Stepping Stones.

German Speaking Cultural Association

WE want to inform all our German speaking society and their friends about two forth coming events. The first will be the WINTER GALA at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel in the Grand Ballroom on Wednesday November 29 at 8.00 pm. It will include an exquisite buffet and valuable prizes. Tickets are available at the German and Austrian embassies, the German library, and on the 29th from the Sheraton from 7 pm onwards.

The second event will be our traditional BAZAAR for all with beautiful handicrafts. This will be on November 30 at 5 pm in the Kuwait International Hotel's Old Falaka Room.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and it's going to be a nite to celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel: 5331940, 2413706 (res).

Musical Show

Musical entertainment show at Doha Entertainment City in 'Starlight Theatre' with live rock 'n' roll, pop and reggie music from the most popular and dynamic groups of Kuwait.

The highlights: Live stage performance of Jive, Break dance and solo dancing by Joe. Misquita, Tony, Anthony and their dancing groups. Including many surprises.

For more details call: Mr. Bilary Tel No. 4879455 ext. 298 (4 pm to 10 pm); Mr. Tom 2546890 (after 8 pm); and Mrs. Luiza 2661370.

For tickets contact: Canary Video, Fisheries Bldg., Opp. Fire Station, Sharq Tel 2402188 or Dreamland Tailor, behind Hotel Sheraton, above Raja Store, 1st floor, Shop No. 1.

Transport available, buses leaving at 2.30 pm from Kuwait City near the Church and from Salmiyah chapel.

Al Andalus Arabic film
Salmiyah Space Mutiny
Al Haura Low Blow
Deira-in Arabic film
Al Firdous Rama-o-Rama
Fahaleh Open
Kinara Fahaleh
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Fourth bilateral accord EEC and Moscow clinch trade deal

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Nov 27, (AP): Reflecting the rapid changes in Europe's political landscape, the EEC said today it has signed a draft trade and economic co-operation accord with the Soviet Union, four months after the talks began.

It is the fourth bilateral accord with an East European country since the European Economic Community and the Moscow-led Comecon trade bloc signed a mutual recognition agreement on June 25, 1988.

Since late 1988, the EEC has signed agreements with Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Separately today, European Economic Community external relations commissioner Frans Andriessen called the developments in Czechoslovakia of the last week "a cause for profound rejoicing throughout Europe."

"Political reform and economic liberalisation in Czechoslovakia form part of a wider process which, for the first time in more than 40 years, offers to future generations the prospect of a Europe no longer divided by division," he said in a statement.

The trade and economic co-operation pact with Moscow was reached between the EEC and Soviet negotiators in talks that began in Brussels last Wednesday and were concluded last evening.

It must be formally approved by the 12 EEC states, which is considered a formality, before it takes effect.

No details of the draft agreement were immediately released.

It was reached in just over four months. The talks began July 19 and the accord is the fourth with an East European nation.

On Sept 26, 1988, the EEC signed a generous trade and economic co-operation agreement with Hungary that forces a gradual removal of EEC import quotas on a range of Hungarian goods.

On Dec 19, 1988, it signed a more limited deal with Czechoslovakia covering only trade in manufactured goods. An EEC-Poland accord was signed on Sept 19.

EEC officials said it was too early to speak of a widening of the accord with Czechoslovakia in view of the dramatic events there in recent days.

"The negotiations (with the Soviet Union) took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere," EEC Commission spokesman Nico Wegter said.

The Commission is still negotiating for economic agreements with Bulgaria and East Germany.

Talks with the latter nation are still in an "exploratory" stage but will likely be speeded by next week's visit to East Berlin by Andriessen.

East Germany has asked the EEC for an accord on trade and economic co-operation. The EEC has broken off talks for closer economic ties with Romania in view of the country's human rights record.

(See Page 14)

US farm exports up Value of shipments surges

WASHINGTON, Nov 27, (AP): US exports of farm products in the fiscal year that ended on Sept 30 came close to the \$40 billion forecast by Agriculture Department experts three months ago.

According to a detailed report by the department's Economic Research Service, the value of shipments in the 1989 fiscal year was almost \$39.7 billion, up 12 per cent from \$35.3 billion in 1988.

That was the biggest export value since the record \$43.8 billion in 1981. It also marked the third consecutive year-to-year increase since exports plunged to \$26.3 billion in 1986.

Officials said the 1989 export surge came despite a sharp cutback in the department's export enhancement programme, or EEP, which subsidises selected exports to designated overseas markets.

Agricultural imports, meanwhile, were valued at a record \$28.5 billion, up from about \$21 billion in 1988, the previous high. Vegetables, grain and grain products, sugar and rubber showed the largest increases, the report said.

As expected, the actual volume of 1989 exports of key commodities was down from the previous year. But higher "unit" prices for many items offset the decline in shipment tonnages.

For example, total US wheat exports dropped to 37.7 million metric tons from 40.5 million tons in 1988, despite huge shipments to the Soviet Union and China. The value, boosted by higher market prices, rose to more than \$6 billion from 4.5 billion in 1988.

Corn exports in 1989 jumped 15 per cent from 1988 to 50.7 million tons, the most in a year since 1981. That included a record 15.6 million tons shipped to Soviets. Total shipments were worth \$6.1 billion, up from \$4.32 billion in 1988.

Soybean exports in 1989 were reported at 14.1 million tons, down from 21.1 million tons in 1988, the lowest since 1975. The export value, at \$4.08 billion, was down from 5.07 billion.

Exports of cotton totalled 1.4 million tons, or 6.6 million bales, the highest level in five years, the report said. Value, reflecting lower prices, dropped to \$2.04 billion from 2.14 billion in 1988.

The analysis also showed that spending for export subsidies under EEP dropped 15 per cent in 1989 to less than \$2.8 billion from nearly \$3.3 billion in 1988.

In terms of commodities, the EEP subsidies covered less than 15.9 million tons of wheat, down almost 40 per cent from 26.3 million tons subsidised in 1988.

All commodities authorised under the programme were cut back, according to the report. Others included:

- Rice, 20,000 tons in 1989, down 83 per cent from 120,000 in 1988.
- Barley, 529,000 tons, down 69 per cent from 1.7 million.
- Grain sorghum, none in 1989 and 213,000 tons in 1988.
- Vegetable oils, 105,000 tons, down 71 per cent from 13,000.

Wise wants to put contact lenses on chickens

Firm sold to follow a dream

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts, Nov 27, (AP): Randall E. Wise had it all. Harvard graduate degree in business and a profitable computer company. But he sold his firm to follow a dream to one day supply contact lenses to all the world's egg-laying chickens.

Wise's red contact lenses are already on 100,000 chickens nationwide, and his company, Animalens Inc., is growing.

Oh, sure, people laughed at first. "We'd talk to investors. They'd say: 'Sounds neat. Good luck,'" Wise recalls.

But while Wise is willing to joke a little about his enterprise, he's serious about expecting a bright future.

Before writing Wise off as a cuckoo, understand that there is a sound idea behind his scheme. Chickens become positively mellow when they see the world through rose-tinted glasses, or, better yet, fire-engine red contact lenses.

Scientists aren't sure why, but a rosy outlook eliminates the pecking order among chickens, which normally tend to be ornery animals. Red-eyed birds spend less time fighting and more time laying eggs. They also eat less.

According to Wise's calculations, that translates into an annual savings of at least 50 cents a chicken, or 2.5 cents per dozen eggs. With 1.2 billion laying chickens multiplied by the 20 dozen eggs each yields a year, the savings could be \$600 million.

With such benefits, Wise is sure farmers will soon flock to buy his contact lenses, which go for a modest 20 cents a pair, or 15 cents if bought in bulk. The hard lenses are put in place in seconds by holding the bird's head steady. They stay in place for the life of the bird, or about a year.

"The challenge is to go out and sell the product, especially when it's new and different," Wise says. "This certainly falls into the category of being new and different."

The idea for the lenses goes back to Wise's childhood on the chicken farm his father managed in northern California in the early 1960s.

Wise's father tried to produce lenses for chickens after a salesman told him about a farm where chickens afflicted with cataracts behaved better than those with normal sight.

"But the technology didn't exist at the time for the lens to work," explains Wise, 41. "The early lenses blinded the chickens."

The elder Wise's fledgling company folded. His son went off to college, worked in the shipping industry for a time and then founded a computer software firm in Boston that prospered.

But the chickens and the lenses were still on his mind. Three years ago he sold his company for several million dollars and set out to pursue his dream.

The lenses had to be painstakingly designed so they wouldn't distort the chicken's vision or irritate their eyes.

China seeks Gulf money after Western boycott

ABU DHABI, Nov 27, (Agencies): China is seeking Gulf Arab money to compensate for damage done to its economy after a Western economic boycott in protest at the suppression of the democracy movement.

Chinese Economic and Foreign Trade Relations Minister Zheng Tuoqin told reporters during a trip to the United Arab Emirates that China was looking for funds.

"China is negotiating with the United Arab Emirates and other Gulf countries to get loans to finance some projects which were shelved due to a boycott by the West," he said.

Zheng said the sanctions against

China had had an effect but "such an impact is a fraction of the enormous Chinese economy."

"Our economy is based primarily on self-reliance, then on foreign loans and investments," he said.

Zheng said the Western imposition of sanctions was prompted by misinformation about the events in Beijing in June, but did not elaborate.

Western reports said Chinese troops shot protesters when clearing Beijing Tiananmen Square during the June demonstrations.

In another development, Congress has told President George Bush to hold back \$115 million in contributions to the

World Bank unless he certifies that any loans it makes to China will promote individual freedoms and human rights, officials said on Thursday.

The bank, owned by 152 countries, is the largest source of aid to the Third World. Its president, Barber Conable, and its largest contributions come from the United States. Most of its funds come from its own borrowing on world markets.

It halted new loans to China after the government cracked down on the student movement for more democracy last June, but continued to disburse money on loans granted earlier. Conable has said he hopes to resume new lending soon. He has not set a date.

The official Xinhua news agency in China has just announced a new code for students, requiring that they "defend the interests of the motherland, abide by the constitution, adhere to socialist collectivism and love labour."

It also takes up moral behaviour, maintaining public order and "abiding by the discipline of foreign affairs."

Bush signed into law on Tuesday a bill that would make available \$965 million in contributions to the International Development Association (IDA), a part of the bank that lends to the poorest countries. But the law says that 115 million of that shall not be available until Jan 1, and not after that either unless the President certifies that any loans the bank makes to China help the movement toward democracy.

The \$965 million brings the United States up to date on its contributions to the eighth replenishment of funds for the poorest countries, known as "IDA-VIII." That totalled \$12.4 billion for the three years ending next June.

Of 34 donors, the United States is the only one that has not yet agreed to a contribution to "IDA-IX." If it continues to contribute 22 per cent of the total, bank officials calculated that Congress would have to appropriate \$3.18 billion, for the next three-year period.

Deadlock on quotas

Opec progress on output ceiling

VIENNA, Nov 27, (Agencies): Opec oil ministers reported "some progress" today on boosting the organisation's official but widely disregarded production ceiling.

The 13 member countries remained deadlocked on day three of their year-end conference, however, on the allocation of individual output quotas.

Several ministers said privately that the only possible outcome may be just a majority agreement on a 10 per cent hike in the Opec ceiling to 22.5 million barrels a day for the first half of 1990.

Current actual Opec production is estimated at 23.5 million barrels a day — 3 million above the official 20.5 million ceiling.

"We have made some progress but there is much work ahead to reach agreement," Algerian Oil Minister Sadek Boussena told reporters.

A UAE report said there had been "confirmed promises from some members to cede part of their quotas for those demanding higher quotas."

An Iranian delegate, however, said "the main obstacle is the

distribution of quotas in a manner to keep all 13 members satisfied."

Countries with low production capacities, the Iranian said, "insist that quotas be increased in such a way as to guarantee an Opec price of \$18 per barrel."

Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shakhshuk demanded a higher percentage share as well if others got more — although that was considered a political statement because Libya already is at capacity output.

There again was no full plenary meeting today — the only one so far held was the formal opening session on Saturday and bargaining took place in small groups and in bilateral sessions.

Indonesian Oil Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita said: "Ideas are getting closer."

Oil markets decided to reserve judgement, and oil prices held steady.

The spot price for North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded international crude oil, was \$18.44 a barrel this afternoon, unchanged from late Friday.

"Traders on the whole have become more circumspect about an early analysis of Opec trends, having been caught too many times by the whipsaw of seemingly contradictory statements by oil ministers," said Peter Gignoux, who heads Shearson Lehman Hutton's international energy desk in London.

Most of the 13 ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries met together in a hotel room for hours today to see if they could resolve their differences. They also met in smaller groups during the day.

The conference formally began Saturday. The ministers took a breather Sunday to weigh their alternatives.

Such recesses and informal negotiating are the ministers' usual tactics for establishing common ground.

They generally return to a full session when they have a deal to sign.

Prices have held at levels about 50 per cent higher than a year ago, despite this increased supply.

Sudan seeks Arab investments Economy in shambles

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (AP): Leader of Sudan's military junta Lt Gen. Omar al-Bashir arrived today seeking Arab investment as he grapples with the problem of Southern rebels and an economy in shambles.

Bashir is visiting Kuwait and neighbouring Qatar, two of the richest Arab oil-producing nations.

In interviews with a Kuwaiti newspaper and the Qatari newspaper Al Raya to coincide with his Gulf tour, Bashir said the climate in his country had become "propitious for Arab investments after the government combatted corruption."

A new investment law has been drafted and investment opportunities outlined in preparation for discussion by an investors conference soon to be hosted by Khartoum.

Aside from public and private investments, Sudan needs extensive direct government aid to offset a foreign debt of some \$14 billion. Of this, \$10 billion is owed to the International Monetary Fund, making Sudan the largest foreign debtor of the IMF.

HH the Amir of Kuwait, has pledged to work for an international solution for the alleviation of Third World debts.

Bashir chaired a conference last month to discuss economic adjustments to meet IMF requirements for rescheduling the debt.

Bashir, in power for almost six months, told both papers in his interview that he was "optimistic about the chances of a peaceful solution" to the problem. He stressed he did not think Washington was supporting former Army Col John Garang, who leads the southern rebellion.

"We have no evidence that the United States backs John Garang," Bashir said.

Bashir also expressed optimism that good offices of former US president Jimmy Carter would be a success. "What former American president Jimmy Carter is doing completes the serious moves carried out by the Sudanese government to find a solution to the South's problem," he said.

New banknote planned

ABU DHABI, Nov 27, (Kuna): The United Arab Emirates Central Bank will issue a new banknote on Thursday of 200 dirhams denomination equivalent to \$54.4.

The new banknote will be circulated along with other currency notes of 500 and 100 dirhams.

Previously the Central Bank had cancelled the 1000 dirham note replacing it by the current 500 dirham bill.

Gold down Dollar eases

LONDON, Nov 27, (Agencies): The dollar closed mostly lower against the major European currencies today. Gold was down.

The dollar closed lower in Frankfurt at 1.7895 German marks against 1.8050 at Friday's close, and was also lower in Zurich, at 1.6025 Swiss francs against 1.6135, in Paris at 6.1100 French francs against 6.1455, in Brussels at 37.62 Belgian francs against 37.99, and in Milan, at 1,323.30 lire against 1,327.

In London, the pound closed lower against the greenback, at \$1.5590 against \$1.5620.

In Zurich, gold closed lower at \$415 per ounce against \$417 per ounce at Friday's close, and was also lower in London, closing at \$415.25 per ounce against \$416.25 per ounce.

Silver closed lower in Zurich at \$5.72 per ounce against \$5.90 per ounce, but was unchanged in London, at \$5.86 per ounce.

The Bank of England intervened in vain today to brake the pound sterling's slide as the West German mark continued its surge against other major currencies.

"There is still no stopping the mark," said Steve Barrow, economist at Chemical Bank in London.

"This trend is unlikely to see more than a temporary hiccup in the coming weeks and months and this should continue to bring more general dollar weakness and also keep sterling under pressure," Barrow added.

Fed to bring down rates

NEW YORK, Nov 27, (Kuna): The US central bank Federal Reserve is moving more aggressively to bring down interest rates in an effort to reverse a sharp slide in the US manufacturing sector, analysts said over the weekend.

Last Wednesday, the Federal Reserve injected funds into the banking system for the second time in two weeks, causing the short-term interbank rate to fall another quarter point to 9-1/4 per cent, and more easing is expected.

As a result, commercial banks are likely to lower to 10 per cent from 10-1/2 per cent their prime rate, the key interest rate for most consumer loans, perhaps as early as this week.



NOVO Industri A/S, — one of the leading manufacturers of Insulins, had arranged a medical lecture on 23rd November, 1989 at the Holiday Inn.



This lecture was attended by most of the prominent doctors specialised in diabetes, and pharmacists interested in Novo's products.

Dr Stig Joergensen from the Novo Research Institute was the guest speaker and lectured on the administration of Insulin with the help of Novo's new devices — NOVOPEN and the updated model — NOVOPEN II.

These devices were manufactured to make life easier and more practical for the diabetic for every day use. The pen shaped device has an insulin cartridge just like any other refill pen containing the appropriate insulin. The injecting technique causes minimal pain to the patient using the device, giving them the advantage of being able to select the suitable dose. This device can be conveniently carried around.

NOVOPEN II is now available in Kuwait. Al Amiri Hospital was the first hospital to introduce this device to their patients.

The Novopen is the best example of the fact that every effort is being made by Novo's Research Institute, to make life easier for every diabetic, all over the world.

Agents: Safwan Trading & Contracting Enterprises
For a demonstration, please come by Shifa Pharmacy, Al Anheri Complex, opposite Mercedes Showroom, Salamiya.

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BUSINESS

Companies try to cash in on green awareness

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuters). Green is profitable as well as fashionable. Corporations these days are trying to cash in on the growing environmental awareness of consumers around the world.

For several years industries have been under pressure from governments and environmental groups to come up with ecologically sound manufacturing processes, under threats of fines and criminal sentences.

But in the past 12 to 18 months there has been a boom in environmentally sound end-products as well, motivated by traditional capitalist sentiments.

Green parties have won victories in elections around the world, and now public opinion surveys show environmentally concerned consumers are voting with their wallets too.

For example, a nation-wide survey of US consumers conducted earlier this year found that 89 per cent were concerned about the environmental impact of the products they buy, and 77 per cent said a company's environmental record affects their buying decisions.

"The Green Consumer Guide," a book that grades a wide range of branded products, has sold 280,000 copies in Britain and been on the bestseller list since its publication in September 1988.

A similar US guide, "shopping for a better world," has sold more than 350,000 copies since going on sale in December 1988.

Companies are eager to tap into these sentiments and are increasingly taking green-coloured packaging and advertising boasts about the recyclability of their products or the lack of damaging ingredients.

"Green is such a selling point that it is in businesses' own interest to appear environmentally friendly," said a spokesman for Friends of the Earth, a British environmental group. The organisation said it gets 30 to 40 calls a day from companies asking "how can I go green?"

The supermarket is the most visible representative of green awareness.

Sabic records higher profit

BAGHDAD, Nov 27, (Opecna). The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (Sabic) recorded a profit of \$689 million in the first nine months of 1989, up 6.7 per cent from 643 million in the same period last year.

According to the kingdom's Industry and Electricity Minister, Abdulaziz Al Zamil, the increase showed the corporation's keenness to develop its productive facilities and "invest its human and technical capabilities in the best possible manner."

It also showed Sabic's drive towards enlarging its marketing network and strengthening technical and research operations.

Al Zamil was chairing a meeting of the Sabic board of directors here at the weekend, which was also attended by a number of the corporation's shareholders.

He pointed out that Sabic's productive and marketing operations had seen "tangible growth" over the nine-month period. Its companies had produced 7.2 million tons of products, of which 6.8 million had been marketed.

Development and expansion projects were proceeding successfully, he said, including the compound fertilisers plant at Al Bitar, the iron and steel complex in Jubail, the Al Razi Saudi Methanol Company and the Ibn Fahad National Plastic Company.

Currency rates

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (Kuna). Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.29647	0.29782
Sterling	0.462196	0.464882
DM	0.161816	0.166800
S.Fr	0.185178	0.186245
F.Fr	0.048442	0.048710
Yen	0.0002240	0.0002260
Japan	0.000200	0.000200
Bahrain	0.785184	0.789757
UAE Dir.	0.080833	0.081051
S.Riyal	0.079016	0.079386
O.Riyal	0.081403	0.081808
O.Riyal	0.769732	0.773440

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (Kuna). Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-5/16	8-9/16
3 months	8-5/16	8-9/16
6 months	8-1/4	8-1/2
1 year	8-1/4	8-1/2

EXCHANGE RATES

Indian rupee	17.630
Sri Lankan rupee	7.530
Pakistani rupee	14.040
Bangladesh taka	9.140
US dollar	297.50
Pound sterling	463.75
UAE dirham	0.08077
Deutsche mark	166.75
Japanese yen	0.00283

Jordan expects \$236m in Arab aid in '90

AMMAN, Nov 27, (Reuters). Jordan expects to receive about \$236 million from Arab aid donors in 1990, compared to this year's total of about \$400 million.

The finance Ministry, releasing more details on a draft 1990 budget approved by the cabinet on Saturday, said foreign aid would amount to 162.6 million dinars (\$253 million), including 152.1 million (\$236 million) from Arab states.

In dollar terms proposed budget spending is 20 per cent lower than the 1989 figure.

Bankers say Jordan has received about \$400 million in Arab aid this year, including 200 million from Saudi Arabia.

The draft budget, due to be submitted to Jordan's new Parliament this week, cuts real spending and freezes public sector wages in a bid to reform the debt-saddled economy.

The ministry said the overall deficit would be 286.8 million dinars (\$446 million), including 87.5 million dinars (\$136 million) in debt repayments.

The projections are in line with targets agreed with the International Monetary Fund gradually to cut the budget deficit as a proportion of gross domestic product.

The ministry said current spending would rise by 97.7 million dinars (\$152 million) to pay for food subsidies, interest payments on foreign loans and state pensions.

Current spending at \$52.4 million dinars (\$1.326 billion) accounts for 77 per cent of the total projected 1990 budget of 1.106 billion dinars (\$1.72 billion).

The deficit is to be financed by foreign loans totalling 252.9 million dinars (\$393 million) and domestic loans worth 33.7 million dinars (\$52 million).

The IMF agreed to provide Jordan with a standby credit in July and Amman is now rescheduling its \$8 billion debt with foreign governments and commercial banks.

The four-nation European consortium — grouping France's Aerospatiale, British Aerospace, Germany's MBB (Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Humboldt) and Spain's Casa — will invest \$480 million in the project but already had 107 firm commitments and 74 options to purchase it, said.

A company statement said Airbus' supervisory board, which met in Frankfurt last Friday, had approved the building of a stretched version of the successful A320.

The West Germans wanted a second plant to share out the benefits of Airbus successes.

A spokesman for the company could not say whether the dispute had been settled at last Friday's meeting.

Dealers said a temporary shortage of days-to-day money which fuelled a rise in rates had ended.

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Iran misses out

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Third World 'must unite'

JAKARTA, Nov 27, (Reuters). The Third World must unite to keep the attention of rich countries as aid donors turn their backs to Eastern Europe, former Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere said today.

"If there is going to be competition for technology and finance between the East and the South, I believe the East will win," said Nyerere, chairman of the South Commission, a non-governmental policy forum on Third World issues.

"That makes it even more necessary for the South to unite," Nyerere was in Jakarta to discuss with Indonesian President Suharto the establishment of a summit-level economic grouping of 15 developing nations.

He said he hoped the new group, to be called the "Summit-Level Group for South-South Consultations and Co-operation," would act on behalf of all developing nations.

"These South-South co-operation ideas ... are old ideas but they have no co-ordinating machinery ... I hope the summit group will be vanguard group, a leadership group."

Besides Indonesia the group, first mooted at a Non-Aligned Movement meeting in Belgrade in September, will include Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

Its proponents hope it will provide a more streamlined forum than the current unwieldy Group of 77 developing countries, and an alternative focus to the annual summit of seven industrialised nations.

Nyerere said the meeting of divisions between East and West would focus attention on the North-South divide.

"When East and West come together the more objective division becomes clear between the North, which is developed, and the South, which is not. People don't see that greater division, or refuse to talk about it," he told reporters on arrival in Jakarta.

Iran is the second British investment bank to be bought by a foreign group this year following the purchase by Japan's Bank of Yokohama of a 61 per cent stake in Guinness Mahon Holdings.

But analysts did not think the Morgan deal portended a sell off of Britain's remaining investment banks.

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Western money heads for Eastern Europe

Third World 'must unite'

JAKARTA, Nov 27, (Reuters). The Third World must unite to keep the attention of rich countries as aid donors turn their backs to Eastern Europe, former Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere said today.

"If there is going to be competition for technology and finance between the East and the South, I believe the East will win," said Nyerere, chairman of the South Commission, a non-governmental policy forum on Third World issues.

"That makes it even more necessary for the South to unite," Nyerere was in Jakarta to discuss with Indonesian President Suharto the establishment of a summit-level economic grouping of 15 developing nations.

He said he hoped the new group, to be called the "Summit-Level Group for South-South Consultations and Co-operation," would act on behalf of all developing nations.

"These South-South co-operation ideas ... are old ideas but they have no co-ordinating machinery ... I hope the summit group will be vanguard group, a leadership group."

Besides Indonesia the group, first mooted at a Non-Aligned Movement meeting in Belgrade in September, will include Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

Its proponents hope it will provide a more streamlined forum than the current unwieldy Group of 77 developing countries, and an alternative focus to the annual summit of seven industrialised nations.

Nyerere said the meeting of divisions between East and West would focus attention on the North-South divide.

"When East and West come together the more objective division becomes clear between the North, which is developed, and the South, which is not. People don't see that greater division, or refuse to talk about it," he told reporters on arrival in Jakarta.

Stalking the elusive, epic filmmaker

One of film's winning directors David Lean reveals at last

WASHINGTON, (UPI): British director David Lean has given the world some of its most colourful, breathtaking and memorable movies: "Lawrence of Arabia," "Dr. Zhivago" and "The Bridge on the River Kwai."

What he hasn't given is much information about himself. Many have tried to get him to tell the story of his life, but only one author was chosen.

"I guess I just got him at the right time," said Steven Silverman, author of "David Lean" (Abrams, 208 pp., \$39.95), the authorized biography of one of film's most winning directors — an unprecedented 27 Academy Awards out of 56 nominations.

Not only did Lean himself sit down over a period of months to talk to Silverman, but some of the stars of his movies were more than happy to contribute their memories as well.

Katherine Hepburn, who starred in the 1955 movie "Summertime," and who avoids the press as much as her "great, good friend" Lean, not only supplied a few recollections but also wrote the introduction.

Omar Sharif, Alex Guinness, John Mills, Julie Christie and others also share their memories of working with Lean.

"They all have such admiration for him," Omar Sharif said — as did a

few others "I can't believe David has permitted a book," said Silverman. "He has been approached for two decades, mostly by British journalists and had said no."

Silverman, who is American, said there were several reasons that prompted him to try and put together a biography on the 80-year-old director whose films speak so eloquently but who has little to say about himself.

"No one knew much about him," said Silverman. "He's not going to live forever and I felt this had to be gotten down. Not only is it an interesting life, but... it explains what real movies are, as told by the best cast ever assembled."

Getting the star of the book to open up presented its own set of problems, he said.

"I felt what I had on my hands was an 80-year-old virgin," said Silverman. "I kept expecting to find an ax murderer in his background. But he is just that way, he's modest to a fault. He just doesn't understand personality journalism; it's something he wasn't brought up on."

What worked was Silverman "just sitting there with my mouth shut and letting him go on while I nodded. I never interrupted."

"What's in the book is not one long conversation, it's stitched together over a period of time," he said. "But I will

admit my mouth dropped open when he went into his childhood, his strict religious background, what he thought about his younger brother."

"He called him 'my great envy.' The brother was sent to Oxford and he wasn't. Here's someone who has become the most celebrated director of all time, it was incredible."

Something that didn't make it into print was how Lean liked talking about other people's movies," said Silverman. "He calls movies 'a magic box' because he knows the technical end so well."

"It's almost like someone explaining a machine, the components that go into

a car engine. Of course in his case, the car is a Rolls-Royce because everything has to be the best... he's such a perfectionist."

As far as today's movies, there's not a lot out there that would interest him but I was surprised he did see Eddie Murphy," said Silverman.

"He said to me one day, 'now look Steven, those 'Beverly Hills Cop' movies. They're not very good but that Eddie Murphy — he is wonderful.'"

The book also provides an interesting look at what it's like to make what are known as "epic" pictures without the high-tech special effects found in a "Star Wars" or a "Superman."

A severe case of phantomitis

Hollywood's love affair

HOLLYWOOD is suffering from a severe case of phantomitis. Gaston Leroux's deformed genius from "The Phantom of the Opera" has been dramatically transformed from a nightmarish creature stalking the underground caverns of the Paris Opera into the matinee idol and sex symbol of the '80s.

The man behind this metamorphosis is Englishman Andrew Lloyd Webber. He took Leroux's pathetic Parisian and turned him into a tragically romantic figure, the centerpiece of a splashy, extravagant and much-praised stage show that has played to packed houses in London, New York and Los Angeles.

For his part, Webber concedes that the success of the show is due in no small measure to the man behind the mask: actor Michael Crawford. Crawford created the phantom of Webber's musical and is seducing hundreds of women nightly in Los Angeles where he brings the tragic hero to life.

before Crawford burst into song. The first, and best, celluloid version came from Lon Chaney (the actor/subject of "Man of a Thousand Faces") in a 1925 silent movie. Claude Rains was next in 1943 and in 1962 Herbert Lom played a phantom grown more sympathetic over the years. Neither of these latter-day "Phantom" remakes was particularly well-received.

Then in 1986 came the rebirth of "Phantom" with a lavish musical score and an extravagant, special-effects-packed stage production that transformed the likable and talented Crawford into a star.

Crawford continues to mysteriously swing the ornate chandelier nightly in the expectation that when Webber turns his musical into a film, Crawford will be up there on the screen as the phantom in Dolby sound and living colour.



Michael Crawford as the Phantom

In the wake of the musical's success, Hollywood — as it is wont — is preparing to cash in on the phenomenon with an onslaught of new, mostly nonsinging versions of "Phantom," on both the big and small screens.

First out of the cinematic starting gate, and opening Nov. 3, is a version starring Robert Englund, best known in film circles as the fiendish, long-nailed Freddy Krueger, who so profitably paraded down Elm Street in a slew of nightmare horror flicks.

The new film, executive produced by movie mogul Menahem Golan, turns the phantom into a supernatural being who haunts an opera house in London, rather than Paris. One of the reasons for the new English setting is that Golan didn't want his actors speaking with French accents. But if the idea of Krueger as the romantic phantom makes you cringe, there are other options.

And that's not all. Earlier this year Beverly Sills, then general director of the New York City Opera, asked about his singing there — she said she'd let him choose the role. He also has a new album coming out. And some months ago a renowned director popped in to try and persuade him to star in his latest thriller. Crawford declined that one — too violent, he says.

He can afford to be choosy. The scripts come in three and four a week and form a neat pile on the floor of his dressing room in the cavernous, 2,000-seat Ahmanson Theatre. And the reaction of Los Angeles audiences to Crawford is something even blase movie moguls haven't seen since Yul Brynner stomped around in harem pants as the King of Siam. During performances you could hear a pin drop. Not a cough, not a shuffle interferes with the dramatic lines. Even at the notorious Sunday matinee when as Crawford says, "They come straight from brunch full of gas and too much Chardonnay," the atmosphere is charged with the kind of excitement Los Angelenos reserve for a clear freeway.

to their feet en masse — the woman next to me had tears streaming down her cheeks. It's like a Beatles concert in the group's heyday. "That's one sexy phantom," a slim, manicured blonde purred.

Crawford grins. "Suddenly I'm reading that I'm Hollywood's newest sex symbol and I smile. But it's a very nice smile and it's wonderful that ladies feel that way about me."

Crawford is playing the whole thing as coolly as a Southern belle evading a bevy of suitors. He is a disciplined performer, some have even accused him of being obsessive. But he's keeping himself in shape to last the run of the show. So in sybaritic Hollywood, he doesn't socialize. He goes home to his rented apartment after the show to a bowl of rice and a glass of milk. He has a hiatus hernia — the result of all the chest expansion he's been doing to execute the phantom's

singing chores — which he is nursing with Shiatsu massage and the foregoing of pleasures such as Indian food, bacon and English sausage.

For exercise he roller-skates on the boardwalk at Venice Beach or bicycles along the seashore.

Whatever he's doing, it's working. He keeps getting better and better. And the extraordinary sound system in Los Angeles allows his every sensual whisper to caress each corner of the hall.

"The part is about the inside of a man," Crawford explains. "You have to let that come out. It's the greatest acting exercise you can have. When I've got that microphone I want you to hear me even when I go deep inside myself. It's his soul making that noise and it has to come out as if on the wind. It's very subtle."

It's not his soul audiences are reacting to, however. It's pure unadulterated sex appeal.

Though when the three layers of latex makeup and the patent-leather Rudolph Valentino hair come off, the freshly scrubbed, curly-haired, 47-year-old who looks 30 is more likely to take you out for an ice-cream soda than a schoolboy. But on stage, when he quiets himself with excitement as Christine kisses him, there's a fair bit of mopping of brows in the heavily air-conditioned theatre.

"It's done ballistically and poetically," says Crawford, "it becomes sensual and sexual in an acceptable way. I think anything beyond those boundaries becomes lewd and unacceptable and cheap."

His message is coming through loud and clear and Hollywood's courting of Crawford continues apace. The fact, too, that more than a million "phantom" albums have been sold suggests that once the stage musical hits the screen, revenues from the score could reach the stratosphere.



Glenn Close

Close back on screen

Emotionally wearing role

SHE plunged the nation into a battle-of-the-sexes debate as one of the most chilling and memorable screen stars of the '80s: The demented, avenging, obsessed femme fatale Alex Forrest in "Fatal Attraction" (1987). As if that weren't enough, she followed it up with an equally daring and vengeful performance as the amoral and conniving Marquise de Merteuil in "Dangerous Liaisons" (1988). For both roles she was nominated for Oscars.

Now Glenn Close is back on the screen in "Immediate Family" (to be released on Oct. 27) as another troubled woman, but of a very different sort. This time it's a part that millions of women around the world will most certainly identify with.

"I loved my ladies in 'Fatal Attraction' and 'Dangerous Liaisons,'" notes Close, "but Linda Specter is much closer to the way I am than any of those characters."

In "Immediate Family" Close — who, thanks to the success of her last two roles is now in the same bankable league as actresses Meryl Streep and Jane Fonda — plays the wife of a veterinarian (James Wood). But there is a dark cloud that hangs over their perfect home and marriage: Specter is unable to get pregnant despite her torturous and humiliating journey through the infertility maze. The couple finally decides on the "open adoption" route, which means they will get to know the mother whose child they will adopt. Enter Lucy Moore (Mary Stuart Masterson), age 17, from a blue-collar family, unwed, pregnant and willing to hand over her baby. But all does not go smoothly for this pregnant teen and the couple desperate for her child. It's a bittersweet tale that is as timely as today's headlines.

Although Specter is a sweeter — and more normal — person than Close's previous alter egos, the actress insists playing the role was every bit as emotionally wearing as her spitfire from "Fatal Attraction." That movie became one of the most talked-about films of the decade.

In a well-tailored, checkered blazer, a silk blouse, brown slacks and loafers, the natural looking Close — her ringlets of curly blond hair falling to her shoulders — looks dressed for business. She sips a cup of tea in the Los Angeles hotel where she has come to promote her latest film.

"I had just come out of 'Dangerous Liaisons' and I thought this would be a nice, easy, little movie," she says. "But I found it an emotional roller coaster, as hard as anything I've ever done."

The story's conflict — not surprisingly — comes when the teen-ager gives birth. With the newborn comes second thoughts and a time of indecision about the infant's future.

Before she brought Forrest to life in "Fatal Attraction," Close had earned a reputation as a solid but unglamorous performer. The Connecticut-born actress first worked in repertory theatre and on the New York stage, but it was with the role of Jenny Fields, nurse, author, feminist and mother of Robin Williams in "The World According to Garp" (1982) that audiences began to take notice of her even though she played a woman some 25 years her senior.

In "The Big Chill" (1983) she sweetly suggested that her husband might like to impregnate a good friend who wanted a baby. ("Immediate Family" retreads her with executive producer Lawrence Kasdan and screenwriter Barbara Benedek, who also collaborated on "Chill"). In "The Natural" (1984) she was pretty and likable as Iris, Robert Redford's true love. In "Jagged Edge" (1985) she was the glib lawyer who foolishly fell for the handsome, sociopathic publishing mogul played by Jeff Bridges. The Oscar nominations came fast and furious — but the real turning point was that devilish home-wrecker Forrest, who Close says, "blasted open people's preconceived ideas of what I might be like."

Will success as Specter mean saying good-bye to playing demented screen ladies? No, Close promises with a smile, it won't.

"I'm attached to all my ladies and the darker characters fascinate me. To see human behaviour and try to figure out what causes it, to me, is what it's all about. Those ladies in 'Fatal Attraction' and 'Dangerous Liaisons' were complicated women on the negative side of life. In this film I wanted to get back to refilling myself on the positive side of life."

were and it made me very sensitive to what Mary Stuart's character was going through. But I don't think it was fair to my child. I think a child needs to have a mother and a father.

"What's so wonderful about this movie is that the subject of adoption is very timely. There's a phenomenon in this country of people my age who have put off having children. Now they come around to where they want to have them and many of them can't. This is why this story is happening a lot and why it will strike deep chords in a lot of people. Having a child myself, I realise what it must have been like to go through the decision (to put a baby up for adoption)."

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Actress finds 'Family Business' a class act

Desoto earns her acting doctorate from Hoffman, Connery and Sydney

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27, (UPI): Rosana Desoto feels as if she holds a diploma from the university of acting after completing a course of study in the new movie "Family Business."

Her professors were Dustin Hoffman, Sean Connery and director Sydney Lumet. A fellow student was Matthew Broderick.

Not that the dark-haired, dark-eyed actress was heretofore untutored. She played Richie Valens' mother in "La Bamba" and co-starred with Edward James Olmos in "Stand and Deliver." She also did some undergraduate work in light opera and a few turns in episodic TV.

But she earned her acting doctorate in "Family Business" playing a Jewish house-

wife.

Going to the set was almost like attending class, Desoto said. There was something new to learn every day from Oscar winners Hoffman and Connery and a whole new laboratory with Lumet (also owner of an Oscar) as professor.

A hyper, upbeat woman who speaks rapidly and with contagious enthusiasm, Desoto was on a high reminiscing about the picture, which is due for release next month.

"First of all, I fell in love with Dustin, Sean and Sydney at first sight," she said. "They took me under their wings. From the first day I knew I was working with the best. Also I knew I was in a good movie."

"I never watched dailies — footage of the previous day's work — but the first thing Dustin and Sean said to me was, 'Get in there and watch those dailies, so you'll see what you're doing.'"

"I didn't like the idea because I become self-conscious about what I look like. But they told me I had to get over that. They were right. Now I go to dailies."

"They taught me a lot of stuff. I felt like I had put myself through college, only somebody else was paying for my education and paying me to learn."

"When I was on the set I was a sponge. I sucked up everything I could. On most sets the actors do a scene and go to their dressing rooms. Not Dustin and Sean."

"They're very giving because they know the film is as strong as every performance."

Even in scenes in which Desoto was not a factor, she stood on the sidelines studying the other actors in action.

"Dustin taught me you're on all the time, 24 hours a day. I don't think these guys sleep. His mind is always turning on the part and the story. He's like a pilot flying a jet liner who can't afford to lose his concentration. He knows the territory and his wheels are always turning."

"I had heard he was difficult, but he's only conscientious. He never does anything, unconsciously. Dustin does his homework, your homework, everybody's homework."

"And I have a lot of women friends who have gone through the same dilemma — including my best friend who went through it for over a year just before I did this movie. So I know how traumatic it is."

She is also familiar with the turmoil and emotion a single mother experiences, because she was not married when she gave birth to Annie Maude, now 18 months. (Close now lives with the baby's father, producer John Starke).

"I realised what the stakes

Even the elegant golden sweep of the 19th-century galleries is topped by a telling — a metal gutter to stop the shells of sunflower seeds munching by spectators being spilt onto the heads of those below.

Golden age of Spain theatre

ALCALA DE HENARES, Spain. (Reuters): The last picture show at the four-century-old Cervantes cinema was a blue movie called "Hidden Pleasures."

The red neon sign has dimmed and graffiti has covered the doors since the cinema, at Alcala de Henares near Madrid, closed in 1972. But inside is a treasure of Spain's golden age of art and discovery in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Three local teenagers who began scratching at the dust nine years ago expecting to find a 19th-century playhouse, stumbled on a 17th-century "corral" (courtyard) theatre contemporary with the Shakespearean Rose and Globe theatres in London.

But the Alcala site is unique. Unlike its British cousins it saw continuous use for 370 years after opening in 1601 and contains three stages of the evolution of Modern European theatre under one roof.

An excited international conference of academics and architects in Alcala confirmed the site's importance.

"No-one has seen anything like it," said Charles Davis of London's Queen Mary's and Westfield College Hispanic studies department, who attended the conference.

"The Rose and the Globe only had the foundations but this is fascinating because it's three theatres in one, a palimpsest of European theatre," he said.

Alcala, some 30 km from Madrid, already has a special place in Spanish cultural history as birthplace of Miguel de Cervantes, the 17th century soldier and creator of Don Quixote.

His house, now a museum, stands near the theatre, past the Cervantes opticians and Cervantes shoe shop.

Romans first settled in the town, calling it Complutum and Moors gave it its present name. There Christopher Columbus first talked to Queen Isabella about his voyage of discovery.

One of the theatre's discoverers, Juan Sang, said the original "corral" was roofed in an elliptical Italian-style theatre, with giltwood and chandeliers, in 1831, before starting its final career as a cinema in 1927.

"It's a living document of how theatre developed," he said.

The small dimensions, the cobble floor with a well in the middle, even the stage and galleries with many original timbers, all date from the theatre's birth.

The Cervantes opened with the golden age in full swing. The period witnessed an explosion of theatre with writers churning out play after play for insatiable audiences. Lope de Vega alone is credited with 600 plays and claimed to have written 1,500.

Going to the theatre in the 17th century was somewhat different to a modern theatre trip.

"The poor stood under the open sky while the gentry sat in covered galleries or on the stage itself. By law, women had a separate entrance and seats in the 'cazuela' (stewing pot)."

"Up to 80 women would fit in that tiny area with their heads covered," said Sang. "We found one document recommending that women in dresses with no hoops, so they could fit better."

The atmosphere in the open patio, with performances in broad daylight, was like the terraces at a football pitch, complete with shouting, drinking and brawls.

Students from Alcala University would miss classes to go to the theatre where they would get into fights with soldiers. Often authorities had to stop spectators pelting each other with nuts and fruit and looking up actresses' skirts.

Actors worked on a narrow stage with audience on three sides and chandeliers in the "foso" underneath, from where apprentices and devils would often pop.

"It was a medieval concept of stage with a man treading the boards in the middle, heaven above hell below," said Sang.

As plays and audiences became more demanding the theatre and stage evolved and grew, but the atmosphere remained unchanged.

In the 18th century two "corral" theatres in Madrid even sprouted gangs of supporters and eventually volunteer policemen had to attend every show.

Even the elegant golden sweep of the 19th-century galleries is topped by a telling — a metal gutter to stop the shells of sunflower seeds munching by spectators being spilt onto the heads of those below.

Happy birthday



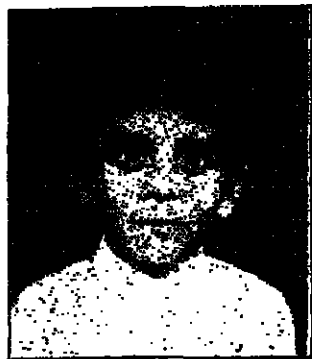
Gurellan Puri celebrated her 1st birthday recently. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



Varun Gadhiok celebrated his 8th birthday recently. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Varun goes to the Indian School and likes games and watching cartoons.



Omer Quraishi celebrated his birthday on November 22. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Omer goes to the International School of Pakistan and likes toy cars.



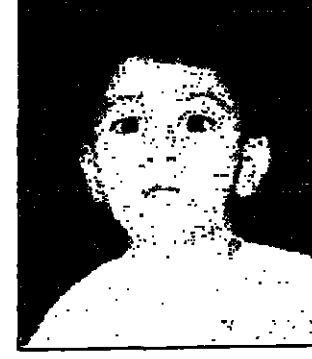
Rizwan Awan celebrated his 9th birthday on Nov 23. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Rizwan goes to the Kuwait English School and plays football and tennis.



Myron Fernandes celebrated his 5th birthday on Nov 25. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Myron goes to the New Indian School and likes dancing and drawing.



Nookaloe Surekha celebrated her 3rd birthday on November 25. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



Abbasali Kanchwala celebrated his 3rd birthday on Nov 27. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Abbasali likes watching cartoons.



Bunty Chaudhuri celebrates her 5th birthday on Nov 29. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Bunty goes to the Sunshine School and likes painting, games.



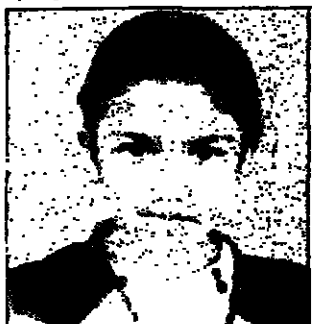
Aklima Shakeel celebrated her birthday on Nov 24. Belated greetings from parents, Zia, family and friends. Aklima goes to the Indian School and likes dancing and playing.



Rochelle Martis celebrated her 6th birthday on Nov 12. Belated greetings from parents, family, friends. Rochelle goes to the Kuwait Indian School and likes collecting chocolate wrappers.



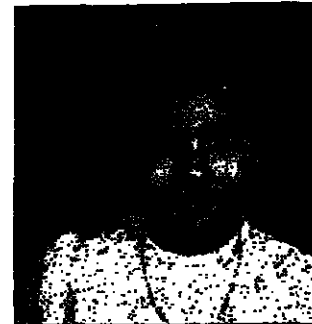
K.P. Jaya celebrated her 5th birthday on November 22. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. K.P. goes to the Carmel School and likes singing, cycling and cartoons.



Pallavi Parashar celebrated her 11th birthday on Nov 23. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Pallavi goes to the India School and likes dancing, and fashion designing.



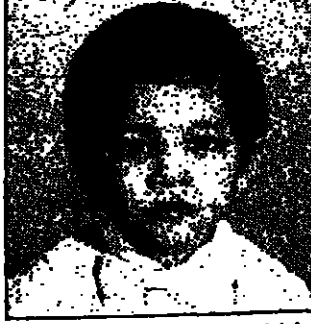
Richa Khandelwal celebrated her 3rd birthday on Nov 25. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Richa goes to Nursery School and likes painting and dancing.



Asha Noronha celebrated her 7th birthday on November 27. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Asha goes to the United Indian School and likes watching cartoons.



Pooja Pipria celebrates her 6th birthday on Nov 29. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Pooja goes to New Indian School and likes drawing and listening to stories.

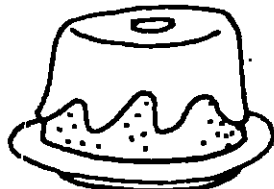


Imran Azmi celebrated his 6th birthday on Nov 24. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Imran goes to the Indian School and likes swimming and reading books.

Colour the pictures below. Circle the picture which does not belong.



penny



cake



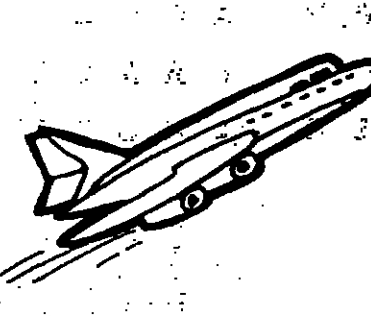
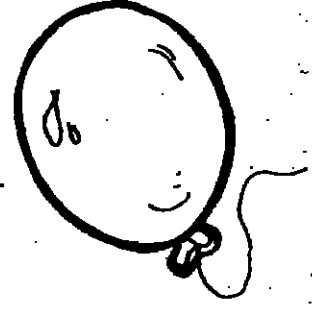
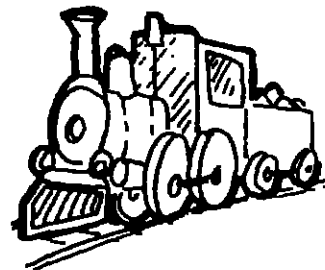
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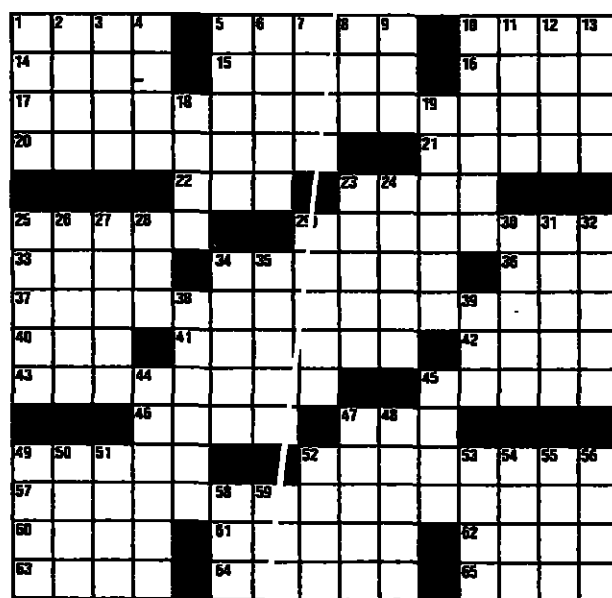
quarter

Which is to ride?

Colour in the pictures below. Draw a line under each object which is something to ride.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Oman coin
 - Kind of ray
 - Feel blue
 - Singer-composer from Canada
 - Prince charming, e.g.
 - Site of Iowa State College
 - Dancers of first rank
 - City residence
 - Practical
 - Words of consent
 - Sings
 - Well-known Hollywood family
 - Hedge sparrow
 - Hunt hero
 - Out of the way
 - Actor McKeller
 - Eagles and Oilers
 - Five-spot
 - Ecclesiastical wear
 - Chilli
 - Namesakes of a Roosevelt
 - of Fort ne
 - Eat in style
 - The Grand
 - "Tiny Alice" playwright
 - Surpass in scope
 - Nightclub activity
 - Part of HCMES
 - Spinning
 - Wings
 - George C. Scott movie: 11381
 - Transport to Staten Island
 - Earl Biggers' middle name
- DOWN**
- Completely absorbed
 - Concerning
 - Related
 - Gold fabric
 - Made fun of
 - Hersey bell
 - Soft
 - de tête
 - English country festival
 - d' hôtel
 - Stadium in Atlanta
 - Loud ringing of bells
 - Being: Lat. in Africa
 - Urundi, Africa
 - Crinkled fabric
 - Cordell and Henry
 - Faux pas
 - Seething
 - Singer Debby
 - Call by the ump.
 - Lemons
 - Loyal subject
 - The street, in Paris
 - Photographer Adams
 - Brother of Moses and Miriam
 - Unsteady light
 - Thinner
 - Exclamation of disgust
 - Namesakes of designer Simpson
 - Used, as clothing
 - Less refined
 - Where the Tiber flows
 - Encourage
 - Zhivago's love
 - Radar image on the screen
 - Hebrew measure
 - Part of USNA
 - The lifeline of Egypt
 - Growl
 - Fulda feeder
 - Dolt
 - Cinnabar or galena

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ZEST INLET FADS
ALAR MOIRE OTIC
PERI MOTOR CORA
SMIDGEN SCAUPER
EER TEEMS
EVANESCE LEAWAY
DART ELMS EDILE
ITE ADAPTER DIS
TICAL NEON GENE
SCARES RAILINES
CRASS HALL
STRATUM OUTDONE
ARID TERNIS IGOR
WAGE ELITE NEER
SPAS STOOD GELS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
MAKE DOUBLY SURE

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A K J
♥ 7 5 2
♦ A J 10 8 4
♣ 9 5

WEST
♠ 8 4 2
♥ A Q J 10 6
♦ 5 2
♣ Q 8 3

EAST
♠ 9 7 6 3
♥ 8 4
♦ Q 6 3
♣ J 7 6 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 5
♥ K 9 3
♦ K 9 7
♣ A K 10 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣
When you come across a hand in a bridge book, it is usually being used to illustrate a particular point. At the table, however, you often have to combine more than one technique to survive. Consider this hand.

The auction was straightforward. North had a minimum opening bid and South's jump to two no trump showed a balanced 13-15 points.

North was interested in no more than getting to game at the cheapest possible level.

West led the queen of hearts, and the first tactic employed by declarer was the holdup—he allowed West's queen to win the trick. Let's assume that West continues with the jack of hearts. Now declarer must win and, since West is the danger hand, the sure-trick line is for declarer to cash the king of diamonds and run the nine. That's an avoidance play to keep West off lead. East can win the queen of diamonds, but he is out of hearts and declarer makes the rest of the tricks.

At the table, West shifted to a spade at trick two. If declarer plays the same way, when East wins the diamond trick he reverts to a heart, and West can cash four heart tricks to defeat the game two tricks.

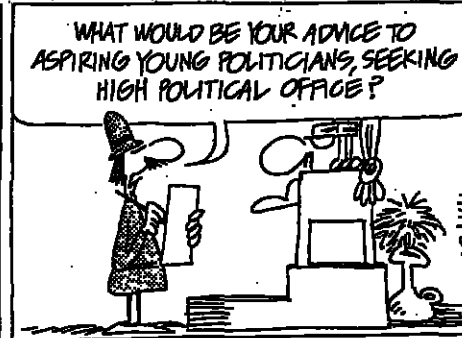
This time East is the danger hand, so declarer's avoidance play must be designed to keep that defender off lead. Therefore, declarer wins the spade on the table and runs the eight of diamonds. Even if it loses to West, the contract is still secure. When it wins, declarer simply repeats the finesse and ends up with 10 tricks.



"He may be an Indian, sir, but he's a superb tactician."

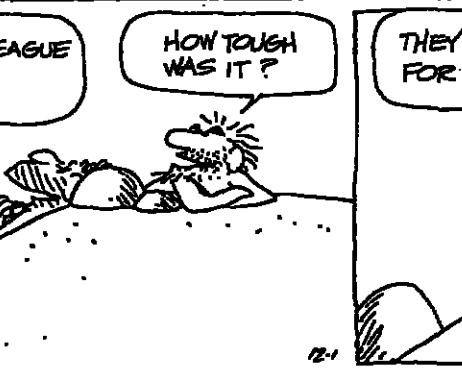
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You will discover why you have been doing something wrong. And you will also know how to get it right although not all at once. You should think again before making a decision affecting your future. Be less grasping.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
You should not leave until later something you know well should be done now. You will tend to be a little reckless, so try to control yourself. You will tend to underestimate something that is most important.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
The moon's influence will help you to be more discriminating. You should not allow your emotions to get the better of you, but not should you repress them. Do not do the first thing that comes to mind. Be less complacent.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
You should try to refrain from losing your temper. And try to look at positive aspects and to see the good in others. Avoid postponing what you know should be done now. Be generous.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)
You still are not as proficient as you would like to be, but you are improving. You should not neglect an unpleasant duty. Your lucky numbers are 30 and 42. Make sure you are on time for an appointment. Be sincere.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)
By making a few small changes you will be much more successful. You are liable to succumb to strange thoughts and should try not to. A little more common sense is what you need just now. Be reliable.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)
A good idea will help to deal with a persistent problem. Do make sure you maintain harmony with your partner. No need for pessimism but no cause for undue optimism either. Be careful.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
This is a constructive period for you so do not dither and linger. Try to show just a little more goodwill towards others. Do not allow your emotions to get out of hand. Be tolerant.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
A problem that seemed formidable will suddenly vanish into thin air. You will be able to assert your personality but that does not mean being obtrusive or arrogant. Make sure you keep a secret. Be more patient.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
You will have some doubts to start with but they will soon be vanquished. You should try to have a good laugh at yourself. You will get on better with your colleagues as well as with your friends. Be less demanding.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
The moon's better influence will help you to assert yourself. You will be able to make good progress with a practical matter. You should try not to permit yourself to be distracted. Be more frank.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)
You should not take everything quite so literally. You will be more easily irritated and should not permit yourself to descend to rudeness. Try not to get involved in what does not concern you. Be courteous.

Word search

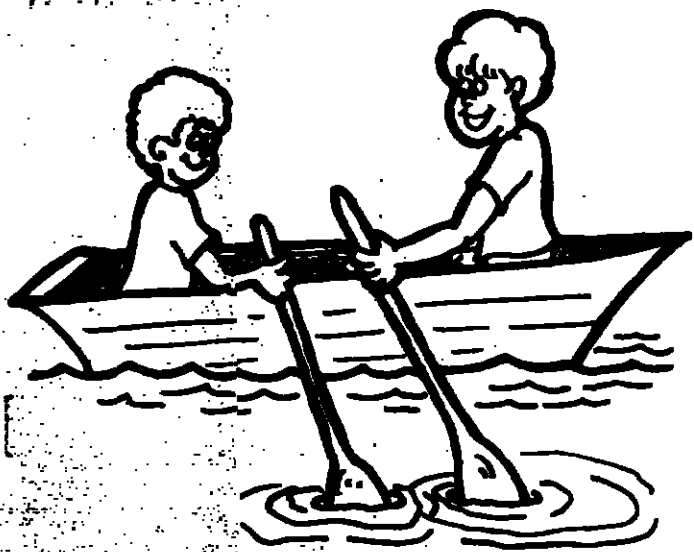
GOOD OLD H₂O

"The natural, temperate and necessary beverage for the thirsty is water." - Clement Of Alexandria: *Pedagogus*, II, c. 190

BACK	LOGGED
BAY	LOO
BAYOU	MINERAL
BUSTER	MOUTH
BOOY	NYMPH
BOG	OCEAN
BOL	PIPE
BROOK	POLO
CANAL	POOL
COLOR	POWER
CREEK	POX
CURRENT	PUDDLE
DRINK OF	RAIN
FALL	RIVER
FLOW	RUNNEL
FRESH	RUNNING
GAP	SALT
GLASS	SEA
GODS	SOAKED
HIGH	SPOUT
HOLE	SPRINKLER
HOT	STREAM
ICE CUBE	SWAMP
INLET	TAP
LEVEL	TEAR
LILY	TIGHT
LINE	TOWER
LOCH	WORKS

G F O K N I R D G N I N N U R
R V S A C K L K E E R C P T X
O E K A A L E S K Y M P N S
L O V L R B B L A N A C W E R
O W R E V O T O A W E O A R E
C K N L I D W H S F L O S R L
E I O N J Y E H L F D N M U K
M P M O T H G I T D T I C N
P S I A M E I G R U P X A I
B E B B E H A O P O G O R
T O H A R S H P O L O Y T P
L T S C I E T S I L B L E A S
A L E N I U R S A X I L O D B
S C R A I L E V E L N N O C S
I V F M I E W O P I G G E Y H

Colour the boy on the right. Colour the boat brown.



Dear Junior readers,

Sameer has written two beautiful poems and wants you all to read them too. Thank you Sameer for taking the time and effort to write something especially for your friends.

Do you have any news, knowledge, pictures or games you would like to share with your fellow readers? If you do, just send them to the Arab Times at the same address as the birthday coupon with a photograph of yourself.

Another thing I would like to point out is that the birthday coupons are for children who are going to celebrate their birthday in the near future, or who has celebrated it during the same month only.

So, to avoid embarrassment on your side, and inconvenience on ours, please do not send in any coupons respective to children whose birthdays are on earlier dates.

Manal

Just for laughs!

'Doctor, doctor! I feel like a bar of soap!
'That's life, boy...'

'Doctor, doctor! I feel like a window!
'Really? Where's the pain?'

'Doctor, doctor! I feel like a bell.
'Take these pills and give me a ring.'

'Doctor, doctor! I feel like a piano.
'Wait while I make some notes.'

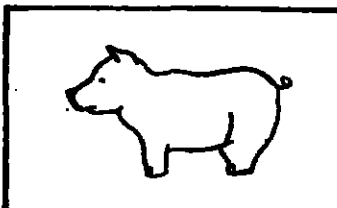
MAKE A FIRFFEL

Create your own two-feature creature! Choose some parts from COLUMN A and choose some parts from COLUMN B, then combine them to make a new FIRFFEL.

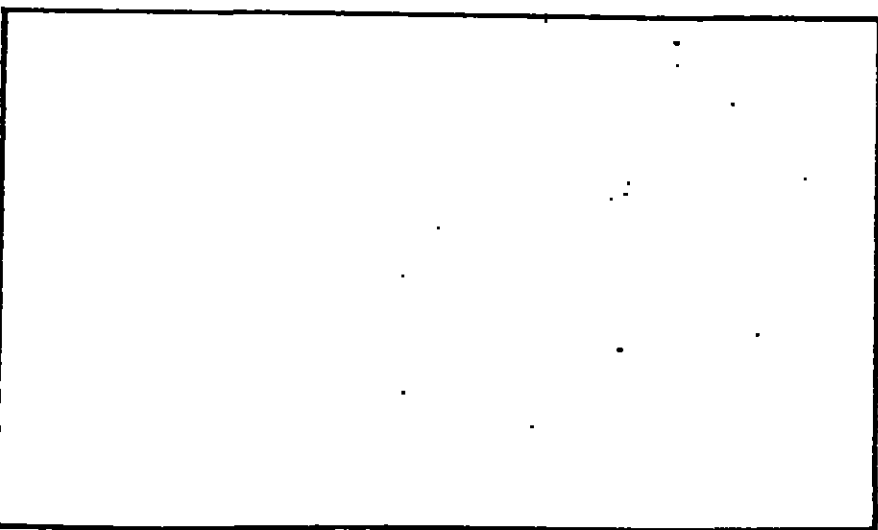
COLUMN A



COLUMN B



Draw your new FIRFFEL here:



Stationery sale

SALLY is having a sale to get rid of some of her inventory. She is expecting many new items for her store and must make room for them.

1. Carmen needs 3 tablets for school. How much will she pay for them now?
How much does she save?

2. While in the store Carmen notices the pencils on sale. She needs pencils so she buys 7 of them. She gives Sally 2 quarters. How much change does she receive?

3. Carlos comes to the store. He buys 1 tablet, 2 pencils and 1 folder. How much does he spend?

How much does he save by buying them on sale?

4. Sally had 75 tablets before the sale. She has 8 left. How many did she sell?

5. Sally had 20 blue pencils, 16 gold pencils and 32 red pencils. When the sale was over she had 5 blue pencils, 3 gold pencils and 1 red pencil. How many pencils did she sell?

First and last

In 1930 Amy Johnson became the first woman to fly solo from England to Australia.

In 1883 the Orient Express, one of the world's most famous railway services, went into operation for the first time, carrying passengers right across Europe from Paris to Istanbul.

HMS *Wilton*, the first plastic warship in the Royal Navy, was brought into service in 1972.

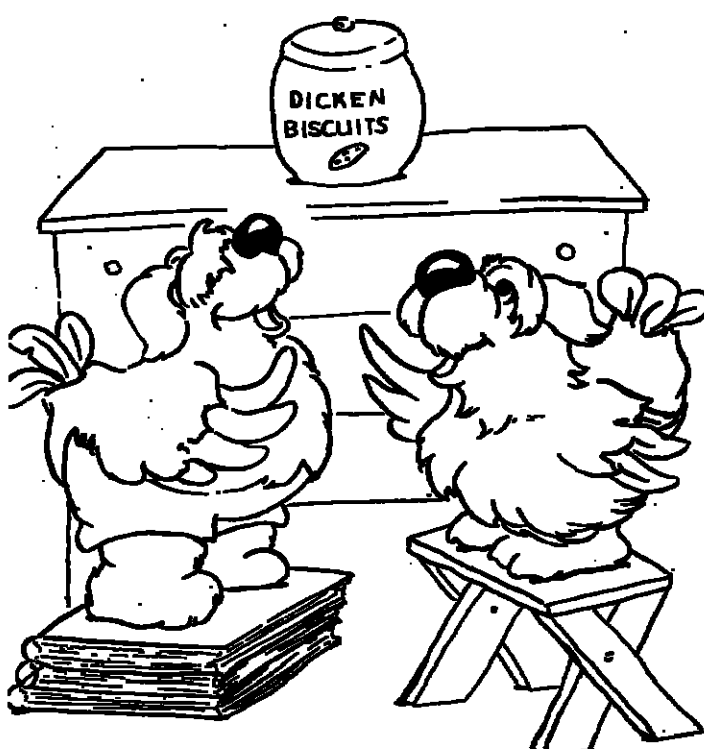
Britain's first stretch of motorway was opened near Preston in 1958.

The first time that the number of motor vehicles in Britain passed the one million mark was in 1923. Today there are over 19 million vehicles.

The first man in space to be brought safely back to earth was the Russian Yuri Gagarin who achieved this feat in April, 1961. He was tragically killed in an air crash in 1968.

The saying 'The nearer the bone, the sweeter the meat' was first recorded in a ballad written in 1559.

Two of a Kind



Thank you Lord...

Thanksgiving was celebrated by the American School Kuwait's fourth graders last week. They happily wore the traditional clothes that the American peasants and Indians wore during that period of history.

Young poet



My mother says

My mother says:
To do my homework daily
If I do not, she will stare at me palely.
My mother says:
Not to make any mischief at school
Otherwise, she will call me a fool!
My mother says:
To keep my uniform clean
and I have realized
She is very keen.
My mother says:
Not to play football
because my trousers tear when I fall.

Things I like

I like to see the rain
Dripping down my window pane
I like to hear in the stormy days
The strong wind blowing around the bay
But best of all, I like to see,
My mother brewing tea!

By
Sameer Bhat
11 years
Indian School (Salimiyah)

Dot-to-dot



Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name:
Date of birth:
School:
Hobbies:
Telephone:
(confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:
ARAB TIMES

Junior Times
P.O. Box 2270
13023, Safat,
Kuwait

To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

Marco at lecole Francaise

Marco, the Magician performed at the French School last week. Many children watched the show in delight.



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Available

KUWAIT city, opp. Behebehani carshowroom, Hila Muthairi Building. Large room in a multiq with water and electricity for a RC family only. Rent KD60. Contact John personally 5-8 pm. (AT3-50453-3)

KUWAIT City, behind the Meridian Hotel, deluxe room, fully furnished for a Westerner or Filipino only. Rent KD125. Tele. 2407525 and leave message on auto answering machine. (AT4-50486-6)

HAWAII, behind the Commercial Bank. Room for bachelors to share with a Mangalorean family. Bus routes 14, 18, 37, 102, 502, 506. Tele. Lewis 2659248. 5-8:30 pm. (AT2-50439-3)

FAHAHEEL, behind Wah Ji Wah Restaurant. Single room with kitchen and tel. facilities for 2 or 3 decent bachelors for details contact Mr. Khalil. 3919548 after 3 pm. AT4-50486-3

For Rent

DELUXE villa on the main street of Andalus, two floors and a large basement, all CAC, with large open reception halls. Suitable for an executive. Tele. 2552122. (AT4-50463-3)

DASMA, Area 1, Road 18, House 3. For a good family one room 5x6, with one saloon 8x5, separate kitchen and bath available. Tele. 2527235. (AT3-50461-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

SALMIYA, studio apartment with or without Ikea furniture for sale. Ideal for a bachelor. Tele. 5738536, after 6 pm only. (AT3-50469-3)

IN Pune, available a two-bedroom, flat, 110 sq. ft. near Market Yard Babawa Vadi. Tele. 4319565 after 2 pm. (AT4-50481-3)

EUROPEAN furniture, complete apartment contents including Italian dining and living room suites, T.V., video, and large plants in excellent condition. View Al Huda Complex, Arabian Gulf St., Res Salmiya, Mr. Esberger, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT6-50408-6)

FISH tank 100 x 40 x 40 cms. All glass, with stand, complete with filter air pump, weeds and fish KD75. Tele. 4330506 mornings, 5635132 evenings. (AT2-50447-3)

HOUSE furniture, Ikea style 16 months old, beds, lounge suite, tables, chairs, cupboards, large indoor plants, electric appliances and fax for sale. Tele. 3902105. (AT3-50445-3)

WHITE, Westinghouse, electric cooker, with double oven, National Fridge/freezer, Hoover vacuum cleaner, pine wall unit. Tele. Graham 5642288. (AT3-50464-3)

SANUSI amplifier and tuner, Pioneer pickup, Senyo speakers and 100 records, mixed pop music. Tele. Hani 2424665, 2-4 pm and 9-11 pm. (AT3-50445-3)

FAMILY selling, dining table, 8 chairs, sideboard with mirror (white) sofa set, 3 small tables, 2 table, lamps, indoor plants, household items and office equipment. All are in good condition. Tele. 5726720. (AT4-50484-3)

PEAVEY PA portable, Montarbo amp/speaker, peavey bass amp/speaker, Yamaha organ/keyboard, Roland sampler, Fender jazz guitar. Tele. Lawry 5652694. (AT4-50487-3)

Computers

SINCLAIR Spectrum Zx+ 3, brand new, Best offer. Tele. Malik Moqadam, 2428200 ext 1568 from 8 am - 1:30 pm. (AT2-50438-3)

Cars

NISSAN Starza, 1984, grey, 4-door, automatic, hatchback, AC, 75,000 kms, insured up to August 1990. KD 750. Tele. 5653952. (AT2-50454-3)

TOYOTA Corona, 1984, fully automatic, air-conditioned, grey, 77,000 kms in very good condition for best offer, cash or instalments. Off. 2420592, Res. 4763231 any time. (AT4-50491-3)

BUICK Le Sabre 1979, in excellent condition, engine and body work outstanding for its age, well maintained, KD550 (fixed). Serious inquiries only. Tele. 5752870, ext. 72, Mr. Esberger, 9 am - 5 pm. (AT6-50410-6)

AUDI 200 Turbo 1984, 4-door, automatic, climate control, power windows, sunroof and seats. Maintained by the company in excellent condition. KD1,500. Tele. 5718535, from 7-9 pm. (AT3-50446-3)

NISSAN Starza, 1983, skyblue, automatic, sunroof, registered upto August 1990, in excellent condition. KD650. Tele. Juzar 2418349 from 8:30 am - 1 pm and 4:30 - 8 pm. (AT3-50451-3)

CHEVROLET Celebrity, 1987, great shape, low mileage, American spec. Euro sport. KD100 for owner. KD135 per month by instalments. Tele. 5657854 from 8-10 pm. (AT4-50472-3)

NISSAN Bluebird, 1985 model, automatic, with sunroof, red, in excellent condition. Tele. Chris 5651018/5653000 (office) and Thursday, Friday 2613671 9 am - 4 pm, Res. 2613671 6 pm onwards. (AT4-50471-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

Qatar Real Estate
Tele. 2406592,
2406593

MARKET PLACE

NISSAN Bluebird, 1984, red, 4-door, automatic, AC, 65000 kms, insured up to 11th Nov 1990. KD950. Tele. 2451489. (AT2-50455-3)

SERVICES

Tuition

MATHEMATICS up to Std X. Also in accountancy for higher level students, given by an experienced chartered accountant at student's home. 3 times a week. Tele. 2439854. (AT3-50468-3)

PRIVATE coaching in French and English languages at home. Tele. 4741782 weekends or 7-9 pm working days. (AT4-50492-3)

PRE-SCHOOL training given by a graduate teacher. Also tuitions available in all subjects up to Std VII, mornings 8:30 to 11:30 and evenings, near Burgan Bank. Sharq. Tele. 2422757. (AT4-50449-3)

Transport

RELIABLE transport required for a lady from Salmiya to the City. Office timings: 7 am - 3 pm. Tele. 5736889. (AT4-50479-2)

LOST

DOG, Beagle, female, black, brown and white, 1 year old, wearing collar, with blue information tag, 10 kilos, lost in Salwa area, Nov 25. Good reward offered. Finder please tele. 5657865 after 4 pm. (AT4-50471-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MAID required for a family, full-time. Must have transferable residence. Tele. Nizar, 5656962. (AT4-50485-3)

REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY

Full-time and part-time experienced Engineers and Draftsmen on AUTOCAD
Write in confidence to: P.O. Box 22087 - Safat.

EUROPEAN family with 2 children, seeks a live-in maid with transferable visa. Tele. 2424693 after 2 pm. (AT3-50468-3)

DRIVER required with a valid Kuwaiti driving licence for a house. Tele. 4813622-5. (AT4-50497-3)

MAID required for a small Pakistani family to live-in. Must have transferable visa. Tele. 2650692 after 2 pm. (AT3-50460-3)

Wanted

SRI LANKAN lady, fluent in English, seeking job in embassy, with European or American family. Tele. Nabeel, 2616549 afternoons. (AT4-50480-3)

PAKISTANI, seeks job as secretary, typist or telex operator. Full or part-time. Tele. 2423647 from 8 am - 5 pm. (AT2-50442-3)

HOUSEMAID with excellent references, seeks part-time job. Tele. 2432046 ext 208 from 8 am - 2 pm. (AT3-50467-3)

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4749574
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Canada Dry
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Tel: 4847837, 4877705, 4837650

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MESSIAH BEACH REAL ESTATE
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Promotion (male/female)
Contact Tel: 2406911 - 2401555
from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm and 4:00 to 8:00 pm

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Our caravan has finally come to rest bearing gifts, gift wrap, charity cards, calendars, Kuwaiti souvenirs and much more. For one stop Christmas shopping come to tents. Telephone 2430168 behind Sahara Hotel

REQUIRED

An experienced Lathe machine operator
For machine workshop in Shuwaikh, with transferable residence. Contact: Mohammad Aslam Siddiqui
Tel: 4830201 from 8 am - 7 pm

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Tel. 2400013, 2400014, 2400015
Forwaniya branch
Tel. 4745800, 4745900

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AL GANDOL REAL ESTATE
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Engineering Graphic Computer Programmer
on part time and job to job services. Candidates should be capable of producing design and conceptual mechanical engineering drawings for eventual productions of design and execution drawings on CAD programmes. Capable programmers kindly phone 240 7582/ 240 7582 and arrange appointment.

SITUATION VACANT

Required, two Indian lady hairdressers-cum-beauticians with diplomas and experience certificates, locally or from India. Write to Advertiser, P.O. Box 3051, Safat, 13031 Kuwait.

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for hairdressing & beauty therapy. The Institute offers its new courses on 2nd Dec. 89 to graduate hairdressers & barbers. Good news: Superiorly equipped beauty section directed by qualified hairdressers & beauty therapists. Special section for children. Gas consultation & transportation available. Al-Jahiri Area No. 38, Building No. 57, 1st floor, Flat No. 1 Tel. 632777/5323668 From: 9 am to 1:30 pm 3 pm to 6:00 pm

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from December 14th to January 9th to work in pleasant office in Andalus area, mornings only. European lady preferred. Please telephone 4808009/010 between 8 am - 11 am Saturday to Thursday for appointment.

REQUIRED

The following for a reputed contracting co.
1. Electrical draughtsman — 10 years' experience
2. Electrical foreman — 10 years' experience
3. Electricians — 8 years' experience
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Contact Tel: 5381203/5382674 for interview.

REQUIRED

For Al-Sabah General Electric Co.
1. Salesman
2. Bill collector
3. Secretary - either sex
Candidates for all posts must be graduates having transferable residence and knowledge of Arabic.
For post 1 & 2 valid Kuwaiti driving licence is essential.
For post 3 knowledge of typing, shorthand with minimum 40/100 wpm, tele./fax operation is a must.
Tel: 2408913/14/15
Please apply to: P.O. Box 17553, Khaldiya, 72456 Kuwait



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SABRATUL, new villa, 5 bedrooms, fitted wardrobes, separate reception and dining room with marble floors, three bathrooms, guest toilet, multiq, KD 800 negotiable.
SABRATUL, villa comprising 2x1 bed, bachelor flats, furnished, KD 170 each negotiable.
Ground floor flat, 2 bedrooms, lounge, big kitchen, modern quarters, garden, garage, KD 250 incl. E & W.
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Alma, new villa - Mr. Alkhalil, villa near sea with view from 1st floor, 3 bedrooms, lounge/lr, room with marble floor, fitted kitchen, basement, multiq, large beautiful garden, KD 600 incl. E & W.
Many others throughout Kuwait. Ring Kim Winton on Tel. Nos 5740256/7 or 5628316.

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General information on each country with lists containing the names and addresses of companies, arranged in alphabetical order, and a special section listing the activities, indexed according to the commercial line of business.
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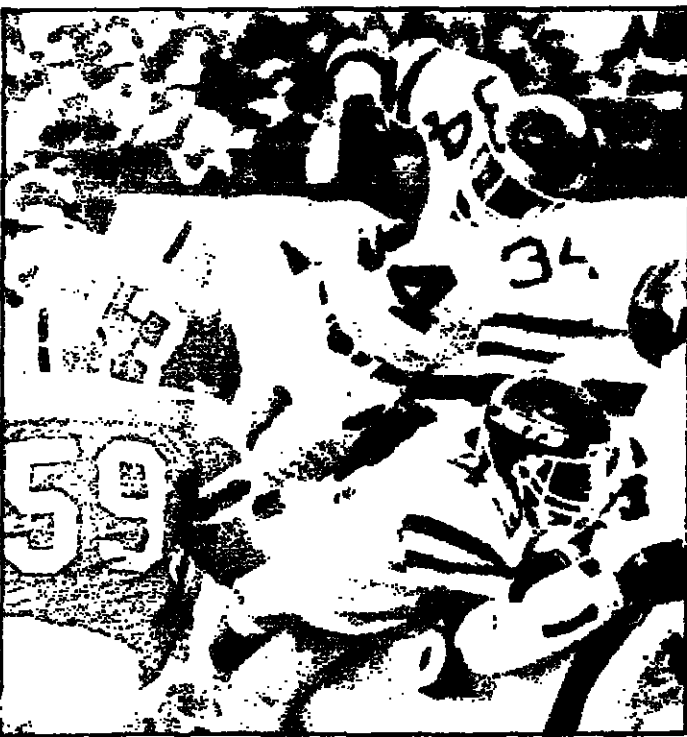
Each day in the classified pages of the Arab Times

ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

550 من اصل

Rams edge Saints in overtime

Broncos clinch division title



Jets' Johnny Hector (No. 34) dives over the Falcon's defence. (Reuter wirephoto).



Colts' Duane Bickett (No. 50) reaches over Chargers' Darrin Nelson to sack Jim McMahon. (Reuter wirephoto).

NEW YORK, Nov 27, (Reuter): The Denver Broncos crushed the Seattle Seahawks 41-14 yesterday to clinch their third division title in four years after just 12 games of the 16-game regular season in the National Football League.

Denver raised their mark to 10-2 and held a four-game lead over the Los Angeles Raiders in the American Football Conference (AFC) West Division with four games to play.

Broncos quarterback John Elway threw four touchdown passes in the first half as Denver rolled to a 38-0 halftime lead before a crowd of 75,117 at Mile High stadium.

Rams 20, Saints 17
Willie Anderson set an NFL record for single-game receiving with 336 yards, including a 26-yard pass to set up Mike Lansford's 31-yard field goal 6:38 into overtime, as the Los Angeles Rams beat the New Orleans Saints 20-17 last night.

The Rams are 8-4 in the NFC West. The Saints, also an NFC West team, dropped to 6-6 and just about out of the playoff picture. San Francisco leads the division at 9-2.

The previous NFL record for single-game receiving was 309 yards by Kansas City's Stephane Paige in 1985. Anderson set the mark on 15 catches.

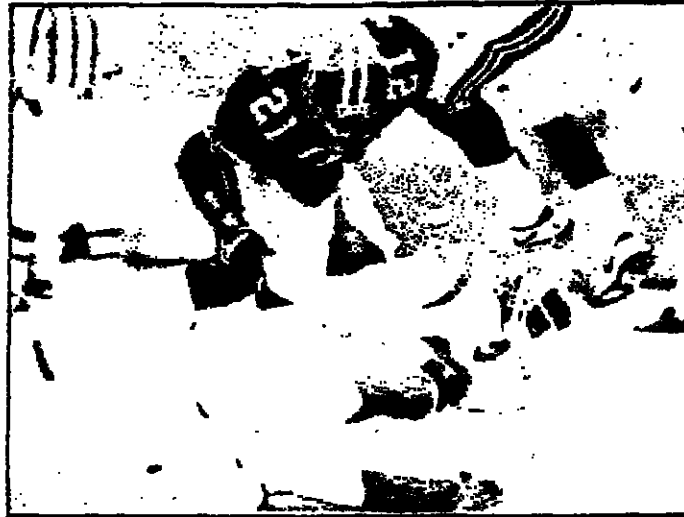
The Rams scored two touchdowns in the final 2:46 of regulation to erase a 17-3 deficit and tie the game.

Packers 20, Vikings 19
Green Bay has scored its second big upset in two weeks, moving into first place this late in a season for the first time since 1978.

Don Majkowski threw two touchdown passes to Sterling Sharpe, giving the Packers a 20-19 victory over Minnesota and a share of the NFC Central lead. The Packers and Vikings both have 7-5 records.

The victory came a week after the Packers beat San Francisco 21-17.

Steelers 34, Dolphins 14
Pittsburgh (6-6) took advantage of an injury to Dan Marino and a rain-soaked field to erase a 14-0 Miami lead and knocking the



Giants' Al Toon (on the ground) beats Falcons' Deton Sanders to have in a 12-yard touchdown pass. (Reuter wirephoto).

Dolphins out of first place in the AFC East.

Bills 24, Bengals 7
Jim Kelley threw three touchdown passes as the Bills (8-4) beat the team that knocked them out of a Super Bowl trip last season. Kelley had scoring passes of 19 yards to Andre Reed, 42 yards to Ronnie Harmon one yard to Butch Rolle. Thurman Thomas went over the 1,000-yard mark for the season with 100 yards in 26 carries for Buffalo.

Chiefs 34, Oilers 0
Christian Okoye and James Saxon each scored touchdowns as Kansas City (5-6-1) handed Houston its first shutout in almost three years. The Oilers (7-5) set a team record with 16 penalties for 115 yards.

Okoye gained 67 yards to raise his total to 1,043.

Jets 27, Falcons 7
The New York Jets won at home for the first time this season, getting two short touchdowns from Johnny Hector. The Jets (3-9) lost their first five home games, but they dominated the Falcons (3-9), who have lost all seven road games this season.

Raiders 24, Patriots 21
Jeff Jaeger kicked a 32-yard field goal with 5:57 to play, giving Los Angeles (6-6) the victory despite three touchdown passes by New England's Steve Grogan. The Raiders used 8:31 in moving 53 yards on 13 plays to get in

position for Jaeger's game-winning kick, which just barely passed inside the left upright.

Results	
Buffalo	24 Cincinnati 7
Green Bay	20 Minnesota 19
Indianapolis	10 San Diego 6
Kansas City	34 Houston 0
Pittsburgh	34 Miami 14
N.Y. Jets	27 Atlanta 7
Denver Broncos	41 Seattle 14
L.A. Raiders	24 New England 21
Tampa Bay	14 Phoenix 13
Washington	38 Chicago 13
L.A. Rams	20 New Orleans 17

Standings

American Conference	
Eastern Division	
Buffalo	W L T PF PA
Miami	7 5 0 242 274
Indianapolis	6 6 0 211 208
New England	4 8 0 235 292
N.Y. Jets	3 9 0 219 306
Central Division	
Cleveland	7 4 1 270 173
Houston	7 5 0 259 294
Cincinnati	6 6 0 284 225
Pittsburgh	6 6 0 177 271
Western Division	
Denver B.	10 2 0 289 177
L.A. Raiders	6 6 0 249 213
Kansas City	7 5 0 242 218
San Diego	4 8 0 189 215
Seattle	4 8 0 177 248
National Conference	
N.Y. Giants	9 4 0 244 170
Philadelphia	5 4 0 247 203
Washington	6 6 0 271 247
Phoenix	5 7 0 220 264
Dallas	5 7 0 153 303
Central Division	
Green Bay	7 5 0 282 281
Minnesota	7 5 0 235 198
Chicago	6 6 0 257 257
Tampa Bay	7 5 0 258 218
Detroit	3 9 0 200 302
Western Division	
San Francisco	9 2 0 308 182
L.A. Rams	10 2 0 282 218
New Orleans	6 6 0 279 235
Atlanta	3 9 0 198 309

Santos, Bombay triumph

SANTOS Football Club edged Naveim Youth Centre 1-0 and Bombay Boys Club outclassed Breeze 2-0 on Friday at the Sour Grounds. Al Othman also blanked New Goa 3-0 and Goan Sporting got the better of N.A.S.A. in a breaker in the Rothmans Gold Cup Soccer Tournament, organised by Saleet United Sports Centre, the sports wing of the Weekend Club.

The Santos - Naveim encounter was watched by a large crowd as many were expecting Naveim, making their debut in a KIFF affiliated tournament, to create ripples with an array of talented players such as Joaquin and Veteran Alcantara.

Santos, on the other hand, were determined not to give in and, as expected, the game turned out into a very interesting and sometimes bitter battle for supremacy. In the first half, Caetano of Santos came close to scoring on one occasion but a fall foiled his attempt. However, it was not long before Inacio Pinto put Santos in the lead through a penalty shot.

In the second half, Mickey of Naveim almost got the equalizer but the Santos' keeper, Thomas Carvalho, fisted the ball for a beautiful save. Naveim fought hard but their combination fell short of scoring opportunities and when one came their way with a penalty, the agile Santos keeper stopped the shot. The subsequent goal was disallowed by referee, Diego, for an offside.

Superiority
Simultaneously on the other ground, two new teams, Bombay Boys Club and Breeze put up an unexpectedly good display of soccer but Bombay Boys proved their superiority with goals from Jacob D'Souza in the first half and a penalty converted by Consecio D'Souza in the second half.

In the second set of games, Al Othman were in a buoyant mood and outclassed New Goa 3-0 with goals coming off the boots of Joaquin D'Costa, Lourenco Fernandes and Caetano Fernandes. Despite the superiority of Al Othman, the New Goa lads put up a sporting display and won applause for a fighting spirit. With experience and training they could do better.

In the final game of the day, Goan Sporting and N.A.S.A. remained scoreless in the regular 70 minutes duration. Ten minutes of extra time also failed to provide any score. The tie-breaker was resorted to and it was Sporting's agile keeper, who brought off three saves in the penalty shootout, which paved the way for their victory.

Next Friday, Goa Cultural Association will meet G.O.A. Maroons and Goan Sporting will take on KIFF champions Saleet United at 7:00 am while Sterlite Goans will battle with Bombay Boys and Incredible will face Santos at 3:30 am.

Eagles, KU and Kay win easily

THE Kuwait International Softball League (KISL) resumed play on Friday with its lowest run-production of the season. The League-leading Eagles ran their record to 7-0, with a 9-3 win over U.A.S. second-place Kuwait University (KU) clipped the wings of the FHWA Falcons, 9-2, and third-place Kay and Associates trounced the flailing All-Japan Bazookas, 14-1.

No KISL games were held the previous Friday, Nov 17, as the Kuwait men's and women's softball teams, supported by the Pepsi-Cola Company, travelled to Dubai for the third-day All-Mideast Softball Tournament.

Leaving as Kuwait's conquering heroes, they returned home with a perfect record (though not the one intended), partly consoled after drowning their sorrows at Pancho Villa's and kicking up their heels into the small hours at the Metropolitan Hotel disco.

In the early game, the Eagles jumped into the lead with four unearned runs in the first. Jeff Jugar got a one-out single, and with two out, Skip Stombaugh and James Alderman were safe on errors, before Dave Baer, Alan Burris and Gene Andre all singled. In the third, the Eagles extended their lead to 6-0 on a one-out error to Stombaugh. Alderman's triple to the centre-fence and Burris' single.

The teachers narrowed the lead to 6-2 in the bottom of the third. Dave Lamb and Dennis Dwyer opened with walks. With one out John Healam chased a run home with a Texas Leaguer to right.

With two out Richard Downs walked. A second run came home when Tim Hendershot was safe on an error.

The Eagles made it 7-2 in the fifth with a single by Stombaugh, a double by Alderman and Baer's sacrifice fly. In the bottom of the sixth, UAS loaded the bases with no outs, when Lorne Bradt was safe on an error and Downs and Hendershot singled. Pitcher Al Rodier then got the next three batters with only one run scoring. The Eagles put across their last two in the seventh on a single by Jugar, a walk to Rodier, and a two-run double by Alderman, who finished with four RBIs.

John Dennis pitched well for UAS but five errors in the early innings led to five unearned Eagle runs. Rodier won his seventh straight yielding only five singles to the teachers. Both shortstops, Stombaugh and Dave Rojek, handled many chances well, with Rojek starting two DPs. Principal controversy of the game surrounded Rodier's defiance of his coach's orders to hustle on the basepaths.

In the second game, KU was ignited in the second inning by Karl Anderson's over-the-fence grand slam home run, the first in the League in many seasons. Anderson led off the fourth with his second straight homer over the fence in left, the first KISL player to put two over in the same game since the days of awesome Dave Williams and Shelton McMath. The only other current player ever to pull off the feat is Osama Al Ghusain, who did it for the old

CBK team against KU way back in 1982, to win an eight-inning marathon, 24-20, with a two-out grand slam over the old Raytheon Field leftfield fence.

KU scored one in the first on Dave Checkie's one-out single and Al Ghusain's double to left center. KU made it 6-0 in the second. Pitcher Clarence Jabs legged out a triple to center, Vic Mason blooped a double to left, Hadi Al-Ghailaf walked, and Mohammed Abdul Jebain was safe on an error before Anderson unleashed. The Falcons got one back in the third on an error to Dave Wetzel and singles by Bassem Bibi and Curt Jorgensen. KU replied with one on singles by Mike Anderson, Jim Thames and Al Ghailaf. FHWA added one more in the fourth on Lubin Quinones' leadoff error. Paul Scogna's single and Bob Mitchell's walk.

KU got its last two on K. Anderson's second homer, an error to Doug Clark, and singles by Checkie and Al Ghusain. KU players voted after the game to promote Karl back to the cleanup spot from bottom of the lineup, even though next week's game starts at 8:30. Most Courageous Player of the Day Award went to Falcons coach and pitcher Monte Symons, on Karl's third plate appearance, for ignoring Bob Mitchell's stage whispers urging an intentional pass with two out and two on and getting the slugger to fly out to Jorgensen at the left-field fence.

Kay ran its record to 4-3 at the

expense of puncheon All-Japan. Most acrobatic moments of the game were today's sensational second-inning diving catch in left center on John Cox's line drive and coach Lee Ehret's swan dive back into first on Steve Diemler's screamer to the Bazookas' first baseman Aoki. Spectators in the stands estimated that Ehret was parallel to the ground a full seven feet back into the bag.

Kay welcomed back former championship coach Herb Broy, who pitched a strong eight-hitter, giving up no runs until two out in the seventh. The game was only 2-0 until the bottom of the fifth, when Kay exploded for 12 runs. In the first, Cox led off reaching safely on an error. Ehret walked and Diemler singled home the first run. In the fourth, Kevin Stevenson led off with a single and came around on a single by Stanley Ehret and two infield outs.

In the decisive fifth, eleven Kay runs came home before there were two out. Cox and L. Ehret singled, Diemler was safe on an error. Reagan Miller singled, Tom Donnelly walked, Stevenson singled, L. Ehret walked, and Stanley D'Souza hit a sacrifice fly for the first out. Othman walked, Broy singled, Cox reached on an error, L. Ehret, Diemler and Miller all singled, and Donnelly hit a sacrifice fly for the second out.

All-Japan scored one in the seventh on singles by Oka and Noguchi and walks to Aoki and Kato, but left the bases loaded. The Bazookas' other six singles came from Miyama (2), Nakano, Toda (2), and Shiba.

Strange collects \$265,000

LA QUINTA, Calif., Nov 27, (Reuter): Curtis Strange, who was shut out in golf's Skins Game last year, was the big winner yesterday as he finished with a total of \$265,000 in competition with Raymond Floyd, Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino.

Strange, who won \$60,000 during yesterday's front nine, made \$205,000 on the back nine played on Sunday - including \$135,000 he pocketed when he chipped in for birdie from 35 feet to win the 13th hole.

"I had a lot more fun out there today than I did last year," Strange said. "It's a fun format, and I really enjoyed competing against these guys."

Nicklaus won \$90,000 in this special event where money is at stake at every hole but is only claimed by outright victory by one of the golfers. Stakes, which increase in later holes, are carried



Curtis Strange

over on holes that are halved. Floyd took \$60,000 from the total purse of \$450,000 and Trevino won \$35,000 for his single Skin. Play began on the 10th hole in

the bright, warm desert sunshine with all four players getting off to a conservative start halving the first three holes with pars.

On the 13th, a 220-yard par 3, Strange electrified the gallery with a 9-iron chip-shot that found the hole.

"It wasn't a really tough chip but to make it was a different story," Strange said of the \$135,000 shot.

Trevino won his only Skin of the tournament on the next hole with a three-foot putt for birdie, and Floyd rolled in a six-footer for a birdie that won the 15th hole. Nicklaus won the next hole, a testing 560-yard par 5, with a par.

After the 17th hole was halved after birdie putts by Floyd and Nicklaus, Strange capped off his success at this year's Skins Game with a 25-foot birdie putt at 18 to grab the last \$70,000 at stake.

Faldo named top sportsman

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuter): US Master golf champion Nick Faldo has been voted British Sportsman of the Year for the second time in three years in the annual poll of the Sports Writers Association.

It was the third successive year a golfer led the voting. Faldo won in 1987, the year he took his first major title, the British Open, while compatriot Sandy Lyle, who preceded him as US Masters champion, won last year.

Faldo collected 321 points in the voting. Javelin thrower Steve Backley, who triumphed in the World and European Cup, World Student Games and Grand Prix, was second on 199 points with sprinter Linford Christie third on 79.

Yvonne Murray, the first British woman to win a World Cup event, was voted Sportswoman of the Year with 240 points, beating world squash champion Marlene Le Moignan on 191 and world and European three-day event champion Ginny Leng on 120.

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0.900 KDI Ceramic Dove - 233 pcs. available

0.950 KDI JIANNE telephone shelf - 11 pcs. available

1.000 KDI JIANNE shelf/plant stand - 23 pcs. available

1.750 KDI Pleated blinds in many colours - 68 pcs. available

1.800 KD per sq. m! LINO self adhesive tiles - 149 sq. mts. available

1.850 KDI SEKUND spotlight, assorted colours - 37 pcs. available

1.850 KDI ORN wastebasket, metallic - 65 pcs. available

1.900 KDI BRIGG, galvanized box - 67 pcs. available

1.900 KDI HARTE rug rag, 60x90 cm - 470 pcs. only!

1.900 KDI Black picture frame, 40x50 cm - 601 pcs. available

1.950 KDI JOLLE bathroom mirror, many colours - 120 pcs. available

2.250 KDI Metal storage cube, expandable - 400 pcs. available

2.500 KDI Children's chair, blue, yellow - 60 pcs. available

2.900 KDI Shower curtain with rings - 800 pcs. available

2.900 KDI Hat/coat rack - 34 pcs. available

3.000 KDI BRIGG shelf/shoe rack - 13 pcs. available

3.900 KDI Folding chair in white or black - 1000 pcs. available

4.500 KDI Wooden garden flower box - 480 pcs. available

6.000 KDI 20 pcs dinner set - last 500 sets left!

6.000 KDI VIKI, folding chair, blue, yellow - 40 pcs. available

8.000 KDI CENSOR corner unit with 4 shelves - 45 pcs. available

9.000 KDI CALYPSO floor lamp, red - 90 pcs. available

9.000 KDI REED, mirror, 60x105 cm - 105 pcs. available

10.000 KDI Swivel desk chair in many colours - 1000 pcs. available

11.000 KDI Triangular coffee table, selected colours - last pcs. available

12.000 KDI LACK coffee table, selected colours - 360 pcs. available

12.000 KDI ROLLE music/flower bench, 42x70 cm - 18 pcs. available

12.000 KDI HOL folding table - 80 pcs. available

15.000 KDI TRISS round mirror, pine frame - 18 pcs. available

15.000 KDI ERIK desk, white - 16 pcs. available

19.000 KDI KABYSS folding bed with mattress - 35 pcs. available

19.000 KDI SKAGEN carpet, 200x300 cm - 20 pcs. available

19.000 KDI ERKEN garden chair with cushion - 27 pcs. available

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21.000 KDI CENTRIK round table with ALEX legs - 125 pcs. available

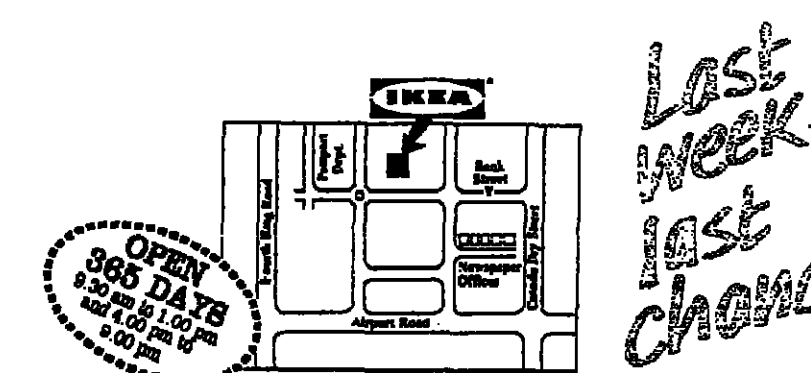
21.000 KDI BROMMA dining table, brown - 68 pcs. available

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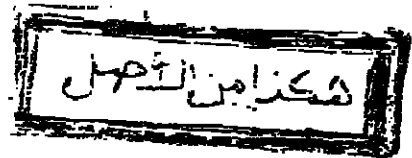
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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Linesman rapped

LIVERPOOL, Nov 27, (Reuters): Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish criticised a linesman yesterday for ignoring a seriously-injured player during his team's 2-1 home win against Arsenal. Liverpool defender Barry Venison had clashed heads with fellow defender Glenn Hysen eight minutes into the match and was later taken to hospital suffering from concussion. "Everyone could see he was unsure on his feet and didn't know where he was, except the linesman. You could excuse the referee, but the linesman was right there," said Dalglish.

Kasparov wins

BELGRADE, Nov 27, (Reuters): World champion Gary Kasparov beat Britain's Nigel Short in 104 moves yesterday in a continuation of their game from the ninth round of the Belgrade international chess tournament.

NBA games

NEW YORK, Nov 27, (Reuters): Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday.

Portland T.B 102	Detroit P	82
Los A. C 120	Chicago B	96
Los A. L 132	San Ant. S	112

Yacht race

LESSABLES D'OLONNE, France, Nov 27, (Reuters): Thirteen yachtsmen sailed from the west coast of France yesterday in the first single-handed, non-stop round-the-world race in more than 20 years.

Machin sacked

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuters): Mel Machin was sacked today as manager of English First Division Manchester City, who are next to bottom of the table after being promoted at the end of last season.

Barcelona triumph

MADRID, Nov 26, (Reuters): Barcelona struggled to a 2-0 home win over Sporting Gijon yesterday to stay second in the Spanish League behind on-form Real Madrid.

Portuguese soccer

LISBON, Nov 27, (Reuters): Striker Rui Aguas scored a hat-trick as Porto routed lowly Trancos 7-0 yesterday to stay top of the Portuguese soccer First Division.

Dutch League

AMSTERDAM, Nov 27, (Reuters): A devastating goal by 14-year-old forward P.J. Fischer put Ajax Amsterdam level on points with PSV Eindhoven at the top of the Dutch League yesterday. PSV beat William 11-10.

English soccer

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuters): English soccer authorities must do more to stamp out violence on the pitch or the police may take a more active role in cracking down on the culprits, a leading police spokesman said yesterday.

First contact

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuters): England will tour Argentina next year in the first rugby union contact between the two countries since the 1982 Falklands war.

First prize

ESSEN, West Germany, Nov 27, (Reuters): Monica Seles hammered out a 6-1 7-5 victory over Bulgarian Manuela Maleeva in a women's tennis tournament here yesterday. Seles won her \$200,000 first prize to orphanage in her native Yugoslavia and the United States.

RESULTS OF THE SAS Bridge Club game played on Sunday:

1st Mrs Matery & Mrs Bianca Mossall
2nd Mrs J. Sape & Mrs Clara Bastiere
3rd Mrs H. Tans & C. Savatini

SAS ladies tournament sponsored by 7-Up company will be held on Dec 3 at 9 am.

Sherraton Bridge Club game will be held at Kuwait Regency Palace today at 8.00 pm.

Sri Lanka lose by an innings to Victoria

MELBOURNE, Nov 27, (Reuters): Sri Lanka today suffered an innings defeat by Victoria, the worst state side in Australian cricket, as they continued their unhappy build-up to the first of two Tests against Australia.

The touring side, 63 for two overnight after following on 189 behind, stumbled to 186 all out to lose by an innings and three runs on the fourth and final day.

Sri Lanka scrambled a draw against New South Wales in their opening tour match last week.

Mixing wild shots with rock-like defence, Sri Lanka lost five wickets in the second session after reaching lunch at a creditable 96 for three.

Nightwatchman Ganan Wickremasinghe produced the slowest run-scoring performance in Aus-

tralian cricket history, going 111 minutes without a run and batting through the first session for two runs. Eventually his patience expired and he was stumped for 13 trying to hit the ball out of the ground. His rush of blood may have been caused by the antics of middle order batsmen Aravinda de Silva and Sanath Jayasuriya at the other end.

Jayasuriya hit five fours and a six in his 34.

Scoreboard

VICTORIA first innings 507 for six declared.

SRI LANKA first innings 318

SRI LANKA second innings (over-

night 63 for two wickets)

R. Mahanama c Fraser b O'Donnell 12

D. Ranatunga c Fraser b Jackson 46

A. Gurusinha st Dimattina

b McIntyre 5

G. Wickremasinghe st Dimattina b McIntyre 13

Aravinda de Silva c Fleming b McIntyre 22

S. Jayasuriya c Dimattina b Jackson 34

Ravi Ratnayake run out

Aesoka de Silva c Parker b McIntyre 15

Rumesh Ratnayake b Reiffel 4

K. Wijegunawardene not out. Extras (b-3 lb-3 nb-2) 166

Fall: 1-30 2-47 3-74 4-96 5-114 6-144 7-172 8-184.

A. Ranatunga did not bat through injury.

Bowling: Reiffel 19.1-9-22-1 (1nb), Fleming 10-2-22-0 (1nb), O'Donnell 9-3-13-1, McIntyre 38-18-5-3, Jackson 31-16-59-2, Siddons 2-1-0-0.

Indians fight back

Azharuddin completes 2,000 runs



Azharuddin: batting on 48

FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Nov 27, (Reuters): Indian third wicket pair Sanjay Manjrekar and Mohammad Azharuddin shared an unbroken stand of 73 to lead a fightback against Pakistan on the fourth day of the second cricket Test today.

Manjrekar continued his recent fine form to score an unbeaten 43 and Azharuddin hit 48 not out from 57 deliveries to carry India, 135 behind on first innings, to 164 for two in their second innings at the close.

The pair lifted the touring team's hopes of forcing a draw on the final day tomorrow on a pitch which has lost much of its sting. India produced a battling last-day performance to draw the first Test in the four-match series.

Manjrekar, following his 113 not out in the opening Test and 76 in the first innings here, and Azharuddin frustrated a Pakistan depleted by the absence of left-arm paceman Salim Jaffer with a shoulder problem.

Azharuddin, who struck five fours, reached a personal milestone by completing 2,000 runs in his 32nd Test when he straight drove Abdul Qadir for four. The leg-spinner missed a fierce return catch from the same batsman on 13.

India's other main contributor was opener Navjot Sidhu, who stroked a fluent 51 containing six fours from 67 balls before being run out in a mix-up with Manjrekar after they had put on 58 for the second wicket.

Pakistan earlier extended their overnight 338 for six to 423 for nine before declaring half an hour after lunch in reply to India's first innings of 288.

Pakistan were prevented from scoring as quickly as they would have wished by tight pace bowling from Kapil Dev and Manoj Prabhakar, who bowled unchanged until the declaration.

Prabhakar removed the biggest danger to his side by having Imran Khan caught by Azharuddin at slip after the Pakistani captain had added only 18 to his overnight 16.

Prabhakar finished with his Test best of six for 132 in his fourth appearance, beating his five for 104 in the first Test in Karachi. He received fine support from Kapil, who ended with three for 106 from 45 overs.

Scoreboard

INDIA first innings 288 (S. Manjrekar 76, S. Tendulkar 59, Imran Khan four for 45).

PAKISTAN first innings (overnight 338 for six)

Aamer Malik c and b Prabhakar 117

Rameez Raja c Srikanth b Prabhakar 58

Shoaib Mohammad lbw b Kapil Dev 24

Javed Miandad lbw b Prabhakar 13

Salim Malik lbw b Prabhakar 63

Imran Khan c Azharuddin b Prabhakar 34

Naved Anjum c More b Kapil Dev 12

Nadeem Abbasi c More b Kapil Dev 36

Wasim Akram c Tendulkar b Prabhakar 28

Abdul Qadir not out 5

Salim Jaffer not out 0

Extras (b-2 lb-8 nb-14 w-8) 33

Total (nine wickets declared) 423

Fall of wickets: 1-105 2-157 3-193 4-289 5-307 6-331 7-368 8-408 9-419

Bowling: Kapil Dev 45-11-106-3, Prabhakar 42-3-4-132-8, Razdan 13-1-82-0, Maninder Singh 21-4-70-0, Shastr 9-0-29-0, Srikanth 2-0-13-0.

INDIA second innings

K. Srikanth b Wasim Akram 13

N. Sidhu run out 51

S. Manjrekar not out 43

M. Azharuddin not out 48

Extras (b-4 lb-4 w-1) 9

Total (for two wickets, 44 overs) 164

Fall of wickets: 1-33 2-91.

To bat: Ravi Shastri, Sachin Tendulkar, Manoj Prabhakar, Kapil Dev, Kiran More, Maninder Singh, Vivek Razdan.

Bowling to date: Imran Khan 12-1-60-0, Wasim Akram 17-3-4-51-1, Naved Anjum 4-1-15-0, Abdul Qadir 11-2-32-0.

Greatbatch holds up Aussies' march

PERTH, Australia, Nov 27, (Reuters): Australia's push for victory in their cricket Test against New Zealand was held up on the fourth day today by Mark Greatbatch, who stubbornly repulsed a five-pronged pace attack for five hours.

Greatbatch, top scorer with 76 in the first innings, made 69 not out to help the touring side to 168 for four in their second innings at the close after they followed on 290 behind.

New Zealand, who go in to the final day tomorrow needing a further 122 to make Australia bat again, were earlier all out for 231 in reply to Australia's first innings of 521 for nine declared.

Jeff Crowe, for once outshining his illustrious younger brother Martin, scored 42 not out and dominated an unbroken fifth wicket stand of 61 with Greatbatch, a left-hander who has launched his international career impressively. The 25-year-old has scored one century and five 50s in seven Tests.

With the second new ball due in six overs, new Zealand were looking to Greatbatch to bat for most of the final day as Australia press for their sixth victory in nine Tests.

Resuming at 218 for eight in their first innings, New Zealand soon lost Danny Morrison for three to a fine catch by Allan Border at third slip off Geoff Lawson.

Two balls later the Border-Lawson combination should have removed Willie Watson but the Australian captain dropped an easy catch.

Terry Alderman grabbed his third wicket of the innings by having Watson lbw for four. Alderman finished with three for 73 and Merv Hughes with four for 51.

Border made amends for his earlier error with a magnificent slip catch to dismiss captain John Wright at the start of New Zealand's second innings.

Wright, on three, edged Lawson into several yards of space in the slip cordon but Border hurried himself to his left to take the catch parallel to the ground.

Border has now taken 120 catches in Test cricket, equal with former England captain Colin Cowdrey. Former Australian captain Greg Chappell leads the list of catches by fielders with 122.

When opener Robert Vance followed his first innings failure by being caught by Alderman in the slips off Carl Rackemann for eight, New Zealand were in deep trouble at 11 for two.

Greatbatch and Martin Crowe attempted to repeat their first innings performance when they put on 89 for the third wicket, but Crowe looked out of



Mark Greatbatch

sorts against Hughes and Lawson, who verbally vented his anger on Crowe when his appeal for a bat-pad catch was turned down just before lunch.

It was no surprise when Crowe fell for 30, although the manner of his dismissal was somewhat unexpected with Tom Moody picking up his first Test wicket on his debut as Crowe nicked a good length ball to Mark Taylor in the slips.

Dipak Patel, out for nought in the first innings, went six runs better this time before falling lbw to Alderman. Then Jeff Crowe, who hit seven boundaries, and Greatbatch started righting the New Zealand ship.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings 521 for nine declared.

NEW ZEALAND first innings (overnight 218 for eight)

J. Wright b Rackemann 34

R. Vance b Alderman 4

M. Greatbatch c Healy b Hughes 76

M. Crowe lbw b Alderman 62

D. Patel b Boon b Hughes 0

J. Crowe c Healy b Rackemann 7

L. Smith c Lawson b Hughes 11

C. Cairns c Healy b Hughes 1

M. Snedden not out 13

D. Morrison c Border b Lawson 3

W. Watson lbw b Alderman 4

Extras (b-1 lb-6 w-4 nb-5) 16

Total 231

Fall of wickets: 1-28 2-84 3-173 4-178 5-191 6-204 7-206 8-212 9-231

Bowling: Alderman 25.4-7-72-3 (2nb), Lawson 22.5-54-1 (w), Rackemann 20.4-39-2 (2nb), Hughes 20-7-51-4 (1nb), Moody 4-1-6-0, Border 1-0-1-0.

NEW ZEALAND second innings

J. Wright c Border b Lawson 3

R. Vance b Alderman b Rackemann 8

M. Greatbatch not out 69

M. Crowe c Taylor b Moody 30

D. Patel lbw b Alderman 7

J. Crowe not out 42

Extras (lb-7 nb-2) 9

Total (four wickets) 168

Fall of wickets: 1-11 2-11 3-79 4-107

Bowling (to date): Alderman 19-8-44-1, Lawson 17-7-36-1, Rackemann 16-11-12-1 (2nb), Hughes 14-2-41-0, Moody 8-2-11-1, Border 5-2-17-0.

Hubara lose in Dubai

WHILST the Casual's bowlers were having their balls stroked around the park by Crescent, Hubara Cricketers were on tour to Dubai, playing against the Darjeeling Club.

In the first game, which was to be captained by Notooth Coulson, before a temporary paralysis forced him to retire from all responsible decisions, Hubara elected to field first. As ever, Craig Shipton led from the front and found when he was bowling his balls swung uncontrollably in the more humid atmosphere. He claimed the first 2 wickets for only 29 runs in his 5 overs.

Shipton was ably supported by Glenn Fosters. Of the other bowlers, D'Souza took 1 for 30, Chaserman 1 for 10, Gordons Talbot 1 for 46 and Fineable Currie 0 for 14, as Darjeeling Casuals amassed 171 from 25 overs. Shipton and Gordons opened for Hubara and looked in no particular trouble when Gordons was run out going for a quick single. This brought in Chaserman and a fine partnership ensued.

They took the score on to 112 when Chaserman was caught for 39. Shipton made 78 and was then stumped looking to charge. Notooth and Fosters, who between them made their own century stand the night before, took the score to 168 with 3 balls to go when Notooth was caught 1 short. Amstel Stein did all he could but only managed a single off the last ball to leave Hubara high and dry 1 run short.

In Friday's game, Shipton elected to bat with same opening partnership. These two raced to a stand of 50 off 7 overs before Gordons was caught for 36. A near double-century stand between Haig and Chaserman followed. Shipton scored 118, and Chaserman 82 as they put on 189 for the second wicket. Rennie Cox with 17, Notooth not out 4 and Fosters not out 10 took the score to 289 for 4 off 40 overs in a calypso atmosphere.

Caught

Unbelievably that man Lanning did it again for Darjeeling. It was he who had stopped Hubara from winning the sixes, and he did it again. Darjeeling started steadily until Flower was caught by a slower swinging ball from Haig. Roger Cox then joined Lanning and looked to push the score along before he too fell to a catch, this time off Chaserman. Frank Zappa then hit a powerful, yet correct 75, whilst Lanning scored his century.

All the bowlers came in for some stick apart from Fosters. In one dreadful over from Perkins Lanning was caught on the boundary by Gordons only for the fielder to stop over the rope. 25 runs came off this one year. Darjeeling looked to have the game comfortably sewn up until Gordons added the tonic that Hubara needed. He took a fine catch on the extra cover boundary to dismiss Zappa off the bowling of Fineable, who had managed to wake up for the game, to make the score 256 for 3.

Gordons then came on to bowl, and at the end his first over Darjeeling were 258 for 5. This changed the complexion of the game as even Lanning started treating the bowling with more respect. Three runs were needed from the final over which was attained with one ball to spare, so Darjeeling won by 5 wickets.

At the end of the game the Hubara players were naturally disappointed but proud to have played in two exciting games of cricket, and not have to return to Crossroads Motel.

John and Margret Watson clinch mixed doubles trophy

JOHN and Margret Watson won the Mouchel Kuwait Darts League's Mixed Doubles Tournament held at the Gazette Club, Abu Halifa, recently. Seventy-eight couples, the most ever, took part in the competition.

For the first time this year, eight boards were used in the initial rounds, the winning pair from each going into the quarterfinals.

Board 1 saw Dave Gray and Fiona Cameron immediately into their stride as they had a 17-dart leg to win their first game 2-0. Geoff Clark hit a 140, and then a 121 in the second round, before Gray and Cameron ended his, and wife Sue's interest in the competition. Ed and Nets Madula also started strongly with 2100's and a 111 respectively in their first win, but in the final game Dave Gray proved to be the difference, scoring 120 and 100 as he led his partner to a 2-1 win.

Scoring on the second board was much more sedate with the eventual winners Terry and Mary Slattery beating Erik and Inge Christensen in the last game thanks to their 125 and 134 scores. Another couple off to a good start were Ian and Jane Thomas on Board 3, 2 100's and a 109 finish being enough to steer them through the first game. Two more 2-0 wins saw them face Dave Ball and Angela Soboh for a quarter-final position, as the latter couple had just impressed with a 13-dart leg in their 2-1 victory over Jim and Jenny Thompson. Unfortunately all 4 players struggled on their dou-



Ian Thomas (left), League president presents the trophy to the winners.

bles in the final leg before the Thomas' just scraped through.

Bill Sims certainly put Board 4 into the spotlight as he hit a 174 with the first 3 darts thrown on the night. That was as far as it went though, as he and wife Diane went out 2-0 to Richard Ellis and Audrey McKenzie. Local favourite Bader Kadi teamed up with Lorraine Bond to narrowly beat Nobby and Irene Burton, but then Bader got into his stride as they ousted Marshal and Rene Byiers with the aid of a 140. Again, the final Board 4 match was a tense 2-1 encounter but Bader and Lorraine did just enough to see off Ellis and McKenzie in a double 1 battle.



Terry and Mary Slattery in action on Board 2.

At the top of the second half of the draw, Board 5 was another with very restrained scoring, with all games going to 2-1 except the last. Mike Somerford hit 104 and 133 in reaching the 3rd round with wife Janet, before eventual board winners Dave Bosworth and Hilary Jones caused their exit. Dave and Anne Wetzel played conservatively enough to reach the board final but couldn't stay the pace set by Bosworth and Jones. Board 6 produced undoubtedly the best darts of the opening rounds, as two in form couples provided splendid entertainment for those who watched. Allan Anderson and Joan Finnegan moved convincingly to their final

game, where they faced John and Margret Watson, who, with similar precision had won through three earlier matches. However, despite maintaining their earlier form, Anderson and Finnegan could not quite match 13 and a 14 dart legs by the Watsons, John's 140 leading the way to a 2-0 success.

Board 7 favourites Alex Gutting and Ruth Gollidge moved through to their final by virtue of consistent rather than high scoring darts, where they met the dark horses of the board Tom and Helen Bennett. In previous rounds all the high scores had gone to losers, John Morris with a 134 and Wayne Mocko with 140 and 118. The final

was a titanic if unspectacular struggle which Gutting and Gollidge won. On Board 8 Don Sefton proved to be the difference early on, scoring 100 and 125 in guiding himself and wife Jean into their final.

On the way Wendy Lindley provided stiff opposition in hitting a 100, but the Seftons slide smoothly on, until in their last game Dave and Aileen Short appeared to deprive them of a last eight position.

In the first quarter-final match Gray and Cameron took out the Slatterys 2-0 having been outscored most of the way, but proving better on the finishing. Bader Radi seemed to have swayed things his and Lorraine Bond's way with a 2 dart



Youngest player

Thirteen-year-old Judit Polgar, from Hungary, is the youngest player in the European Chess Championships being held in Haifa. She is shown sitting behind the board in a game against Bulgaria's Donchev Dimitar. (Reuters wirephoto)

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